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Champion

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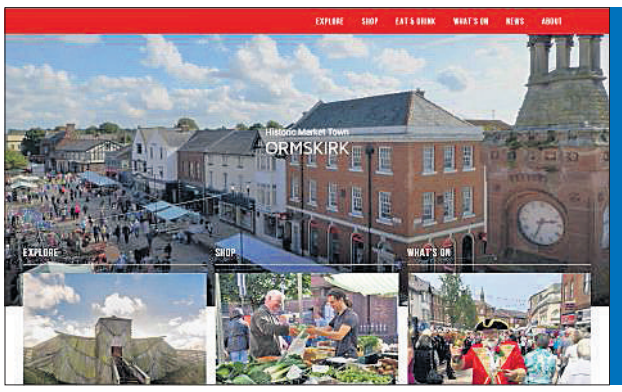

New website launched to promote borough

Project digging into the past at historic site

The stop and search area

Police given stop and search powers after town-centre incident

POLICE were given the power to stop and search in a large area of Skelmersdale following an incident involving bladed weapons by the Concourse.

Section 60 and 60AA orders were granted on Saturday (July 22) between 5pm and 7am by Chief Constable Rhodes for the area bounded by Glenburn Road, Half Mile Island, Houghtons Road, Stannanought Road, Windmill Roundabout, Grimshaw Road, Hope Island and back onto Glenburn Road.

Police said the incident happened on Friday, July 21.

A spokesman for Skelmersdale Police said: "Section 60 of the Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994 allows senior police officers to authorise constables to stop and search persons in a specific area, either where a serious public order problem is likely to arise or has taken place, or for offensive weapons or dangerous instruments.

"Failing to submit to a search is an offence.

"Section 60AA of the Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994 provides powers to require the removal of disguises at public order events where a section 60 authorisation is in force or an authorisation is given under this section."

Anyone with information about the incident, is asked to call 101 or Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

MAYORAL ROLE UNDER THREAT!

Report by **Henry James**

Civic car could be scrapped and number of functions slashed as council looks to make £310,000 savings

THE role of the mayor could be massively reduced and the civic car scrapped under proposals drawn up by West Lancashire Borough Council chiefs as they look to make savings, efficiencies and increases in income totalling £310,000.

Residents, local community groups, organisations and businesses in the borough are being invited to submit their views on the proposals in a consultation running until Sunday, September 3.

At present the council maintains a civic car in which the mayor is driven by an attendant to engagements and official functions. The current vehicle is a 12-year-old Audi A8.

The consultation asks for views on the proposal to end provision of the civic car and the attendant. This would mean the mayor driving him or herself to functions and claiming mileage allowance or making other arrangements such as hiring a taxi.

For some higher profile special events, a vehicle may be hired.

The council say this would save approximately £31,000 per year but attendance by the mayor at some functions might not be possible under the revised arrangements.

There are also proposals to look at a range of options to reduce the role of the mayor with a projected saving of up to £32,000.

Current Mayor of West Lancashire Councillor Neil Furey - under the proposals the civic role could be greatly reduced

This could involve:

- Scrapping the mayor's charity committee and associated fundraising activities and/or ceasing visits to local community and voluntary organisations, care homes, schools, businesses etc.
- Scrapping the hosting of events to promote civic pride, such as honouring individuals or groups to recognise excellence or contribution to the community and engaging with schools and visitors to the area.
- The mayor just chairing council meetings only and ceasing all other functions, including attendance at ceremonial events such as Remembrance Sunday and Armed Forces commemoration.

This would lead to a loss of mayoral presence throughout the borough and the wider area.

The other main proposals include:

- Increasing a number of fees and charges each year, in line with inflation. This would include charges for pest control, and some licensing charges, but does not include car park charges.
- Increasing the charge for replacement wheelie bins from £23 to £25 to cover the actual cost of providing the bins.
- A review of the way the council carries out street cleaning and grounds maintenance.
- Increasing bus station departure charges to bus companies from 7.5p to 50p per departure.
- Reviewing the Home Care Link emergency response system, which currently runs at an

Continued inside

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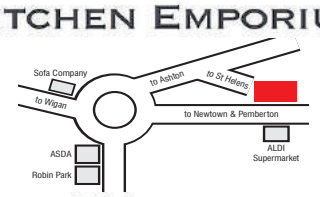

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Website launched to showcase borough

A NEW website has been launched to help local people and visitors find out more about Ormskirk and surrounding areas of West Lancashire.

The site, www.discoverormskirk.com, has a host of interesting and valuable information about our vibrant corner of the world, including places to visit, shop, eat and drink.

It has been set up by the Ormskirk Town Centre Management Group - which is made up of a number of local organisations - after the lack of a comprehensive website to promote Ormskirk was a key challenge identified in the town centre strategy.

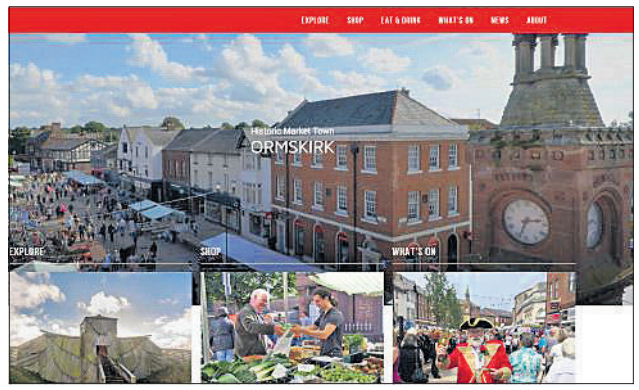
The new site will act as a showcase for the town, promoting shops, bars and restaurants, as well as events and activities taking place in the town centre and places nearby.

There is information on the popular Ormskirk Market, as well as the large variety of different shops, restaurants and bars in the town.

Pages are also devoted to attractions such as the Chapel Gallery and places in the wider area including Burscough Wharf, National Trust Rufford Old Hall and the Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust Centre at Martin Mere. Visitors can also find out about the borough's huge range of outdoor activities.

West Lancs Council leader and portfolio holder for economic regeneration, Councillor Ian Moran, said: "Attracting more visitors to Ormskirk will help boost the local economy which helps everyone, making an impact on the need to create and maintain jobs and keep the town centre vibrant and exciting.

"Clearly there is a lot of interest in the town as figures from Google show that there are around 18,100 searches a month on Ormskirk, so this new website will provide everything people need to enjoy their visit to the town.



Top: The front page of the new website.

Above: Council leader, Councillor Ian Moran checks out the site

"Local residents will also find the website very interesting in uncovering some hidden gems, so please take a look."

The website was officially launched to the public on Wednesday, July 19 and it will continue to grow, being updated with details about town centre events and more of the town's businesses.

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Skelmersdale to be launch base for major new CAB initiative

Diane Gradwell

SKELMERSDALE is to be the launch base of a major new initiative by Citizens Advice Lancashire West, working together with Macmillan Cancer Support, aimed at helping hundreds of local people gain access to vital benefits and other services via the Internet.

From Monday, July 31, specially-trained Digital Champions with a bank of online workstations will be on hand at the bureau's new Digital Help Centre in the Concourse shopping centre to guide anyone living in and around West Lancashire through a host of everyday functions such as benefit applications, council tTax, utility bills and many others.

Diane Gradwell, chief executive of Citizens Advice Lancashire West, said: "More and more essential services are only accessible online and many of them need the applicant to have an email address. But many people still don't have access to the Internet, especially in areas like Skelmersdale where nearly half the population are over 50, and these are often the people who need these services the most.

"Our Digital Champions will be there to help and guide anyone through any of these online facilities and give them a point of contact for email.

"Whether it's Universal Credit, disability Blue Badge applications, or any one of dozens of other everyday essentials, we are there to help."

Training

As well as active support with online services, the Digital Champions will also be offering training for anyone who has Internet access but may not have the skills to make the most of it.

The first Digital Help Centre will be based next door to the Citizens Advice Skelmersdale office in a formerly empty unit kindly lent by William Hill and shared with Macmillan Cancer Support.

And plans are already underway for similar units to be launched in Fleetwood, Chorley and possibly others around the region.

Borough mayor's role under threat as council seeks to make savings

From Page 1

deficit of around £70,000, to ensure it at least breaks even in the future.

Councillor Chris Wynn, portfolio holder for finance, said: "The council faces serious financial challenges which mean that each year we must make savings and find ways of increasing income. We appreciate that some of the proposals will impact on local people, organisations and businesses, and so we are keen to seek their views."

The council is seeking views from individuals and organisations and is working with West Lancashire CVS to contact local voluntary and community groups, businesses, and other organisations to invite them to take part.

Factors

However, it is stressed that the consultation is open to all. Any organisation can complete the survey and all residents can take part. Paper copies of the surveys can be provided if requested.

The council faces a budget gap in 2018/19 of around £1.9m which they say is due to two main factors - ongoing reductions in government funding and the loss of income from Lancashire County Council due to the ending of the Waste Partnership agreement in 2018.

Efficiency measures totalling around £445,000 that will not impact on residents have also been identified to help meet the budget gap.

Further consideration will then be given to how the remaining budget gap should be addressed over the period up to the February 2018 council meeting where next year's budget will be finalised.

Comments can be given through the website www.westlancs/gov.uk/yourviews. They can also be submitted by letter and email.

The closing date is September 3 and the council will consider the results in October.

Film warning teenagers about the dangers of getting involved in gang culture to be shown across county

A FILM 'starring' teenagers from West Lancashire warning young people about the dangers of getting involved in gang culture is to be shown in schools all over the county.

Crossing the Line shows the risks and consequences of joining organised crime and aims to discourage young people from getting involved in gang culture.

The original idea for a film came after a meeting between West Lancashire Community Safety Partnership and Detective Superintendent Simon Giles from Lancashire Police to discuss new and innovative ways of engaging with young people on these themes.

The community safety partnership commissioned the Artz Centre in Birch Green, Skelmersdale to script and produce the film, and funding was provided by the office of the Lancashire Police and Crime Commissioner.

The film has been shown to pupils in schools across West Lancashire over the past 12 months, now Lancashire Police are planning to show it in schools across the whole county.

Detective Chief Superintendent Susannah Clarke from Lancashire Police said: "It is vitally important that we seek to protect and support young people who are vulnerable to becoming involved with street gangs and organised criminality.

"The cast and crew on *Crossing the Line* can be very proud of what they have produced and the film has been very well received in schools across West Lancashire. We believe it will be a great success throughout the county and the important messages it contains will resonate with young people."

Police commissioner Clive Grunshaw's office provided funding for the film

Dave Tilleray, chairman of West Lancashire Community Safety Partnership, said: "We are very grateful to Mark Ashton and his talented team at the Artz Centre for producing an excellent tool for engaging young people on the dangers of organised crime. The team included a fantastic cast of young people from West Lancashire.

Councillor Kevin Wright, West Lancs Council's portfolio holder for health and community safety, commented: "I am delighted that the police are looking to take the film into schools across Lancashire. Hopefully this will ensure teenagers and even younger children are more informed on this subject and to deter them away from becoming involved in organised crime."

The decision to roll out the film across the county was also welcomed by police and crime commissioner, Clive Grunshaw.

He said: "I was really pleased to support this film where young people have played a key role in its creation, helping others understand the devastating consequences of getting involved in crime. The more young people who are able to access this innovative resource the better."

And County Councillor Susie Charles, Lancashire's cabinet member for children, young people and schools commented: "It is a good idea to give young people in all Lancashire schools the chance to see this film. Hopefully young people will get the message that they don't have to be involved in gangs and they don't have to live their life according to a gang culture."

When the film was first commissioned, West Lancs Council's community safety team, police officers, the youth offending team and Lancashire County Council's young peoples services discussed the challenges faced locally by young people and were able to influence the script.

It has mostly been aimed at Year 8 pupils as they have been identified as the age group most likely to benefit from seeing the film but was also shown to teenagers at West Lancashire College.

When the film is shown in schools the children get the chance to discuss the issues it covers and talk about what they would do in that situation.

Writers group to hold free readings event at library

THE Skelmersdale Writers' Group will read extracts from their fourth anthology, *Endings*, at Skelmersdale Library in Souhway Monday, August 7 between 5 and 7pm.

The group's previous three anthologies, *After Nought*, *Tales of a New Town* and *Fruits of Life,* are now all sold out, although *Tales of a New Town* is still available as an ebook.

The group's latest collection contains prose and poetry and the theme explores not just endings but also new beginnings.

Admission to the event is free and all are welcome to go along on the evening to enjoy a glass of wine or cup of tea along with the readings.

The Skelmersdale Writers' Group meets on the second and fourth Mondays of each month at Trinity Methodist Church Hall, High Street, Skelmersdale.

For more information about the reading event or the group contact Carol at writeme@carolfenlon.com or phone 01695 728320.

Help with the summertime blues is just a phone call away

FOR those feeling stressed, low or lonely this summer a listening ear is only a phone call away - thanks to Lancashire Care NHS Foundation Trust's dedicated Wellbeing and Mental Health Helpline.

The onset of summer can often be a challenging time, especially for those with children having to cope with the financial pressures and disruption of keeping them busy in school holidays, and it is common for people to be feeling down or distressed.

The Wellbeing and Mental Health Helpline is open 365 days a year and provides an out of hours listening service to people worried about their mental health or that of someone they care about.

It also provides information to callers about additional services including mental health teams and services to help with overall wellbeing including eating disorders, domestic violence and sleeping problems.

Pauline, Wellbeing and Mental Health Helpline Manager at Lancashire Care NHS Foundation Trust, said: "We understand that the summer months can bring added pressure for people which can disrupt our work, sleeping and eating habits all of which can contribute to summer depression.

"The Wellbeing and Mental Health Helpline is here to offer a confidential listening service to people who feel distressed or lonely and want someone to talk to."

The helpline is open Monday to Friday 7pm to 11pm and Saturday and Sunday from midday to midnight on 0800 915 4640. For more information

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Archaeological project at historic Lathom site

Report by **Henry James**

A GROUP of military veterans, including some injured in Afghanistan and the Falklands, are taking part in an archaeological project at Lathom to help with their recovery.

The aim of Project Valhalla is to excavate part of the medieval palace fortress site at Lathom, home of Sir Thomas Stanley, 1st Earl of Derby and his wife Lady Margaret Beaufort, mother of Henry VII.

Stanley is immortalised as one of the heroes in Shakespeare's *Richard III* as 'The King Slayer', as well as crowning Henry Tudor king at the battle of Bosworth in 1485.

In addition to its Tudor links, Lathom was also the site of one of the largest and longest sieges of the English Civil War and the only battle that was commanded by a woman, Lady Charlotte Stanley, Countess of Derby.

Lathom is listed in the Domesday Book and the original buildings and defences at this time may well have been wooden. A new castle was built in the 13th century of which no details survive and was probably replaced by the structure currently being excavated.

This new structure, known as Lathom House and built in 1496, was possibly one of the largest castles in England. It had nine towers and was surrounded by a wall two yards thick and a moat eight yards wide. However, nothing survives of this massive structure as a result of the English Civil War sieges of 1644-45.

After the Battle of Marston Moor in July, 1644, the north of England was largely under Parliamentary control apart from areas close to Royalist garrisons such as Lathom. But in July, 1645 4,000 Parliamentary troops returned to begin the second siege. And although the garrison did not capitulate quickly, when it became clear that no relief could be expected, and supplies were running short, they were forced to surrender in December.

The Parliamentarians party saw the fall of Lathom as an event of major importance and to prevent its reuse the fortifications were totally demolished.

Veterans at work on the site

The Lathom Castle Project team will be assisted on site by military veterans from the Forces Archaeological Heritage Association (FAHA) which gives veterans the opportunity to rebuild self-esteem and learn skills that will help in securing employment and helping build community cohesion.

Excavation will start on Saturday, July 29 and run until August 13 involving more than 20 local volunteers and veterans.

Head of the project, Paul Sherman, said: "Lathom Castle is one of the most significant post-medieval archaeological sites in the north of England.

"This project is a unique opportunity to cast new light on some of the key people and events that shaped our history and culture."

MP speaks out about fact Skelmersdale has 'no local facilities' in a debate about challenges facing New Towns

Report by **Henry James**

MP for West Lancashire Rosie Cooper has spoken out about the fact Skelmersdale has "no local facilities, amenities, transport links or adequate housing" in a debate in Parliament about the challenges facing New Towns.

The debate was put on the agenda by the Conservative MP Lucy Allan.

Ms Cooper said: "The new town of Skelmersdale was designated in 1961, with a target population of 80,000. Some 60 years on, it has a population of almost half that and little or no local facilities, amenities, transport links or adequate housing. It is a town built around the car, where people are driven underground and forced to use underpasses.

"The roads mostly have no pavements, but cars move about freely. It is a town famous for its roundabouts.

"Skelmersdale residents are proud of their town and work hard to put the best of themselves in the shop window." She went on to comment that, "the town is deprived of an adequate town centre, a railway station, sports facilities, education opportunities and so much more.

"We have a shopping centre that pretends to be the town centre, but it is just a building. When the local council attempted to build a genuine town centre and a modern high street, the owners of the Concourse took out High Court injunctions and made appeals to block it. Skelmersdale is a town failed by narrow commercial interests. People are forced to spend their money elsewhere.

"Although Skelmersdale became a designated new town in 1961 and a bright new future was projected, its tracks were pulled up and its train line was shut two years later. It is a town failed by a lack of foresight and that is desperately fighting to get a railway station. It is a town that has low car ownership -but promises are still being broken.

"The Secretary of State for Transport visited during the general election campaign and told my constituents that bringing back the Burscough curves would be a quick win. I am still waiting for that announcement. Skelmersdale is so poorly served by bus services that, were it not for a planned rescue by the county council, an area of Ashurst would be without any bus service whatsoever."

MP Rosie Cooper

She also went on to talk about the promised local hospital that never materialised.

The council responded to the MP's comments by issuing the following statement:

"West Lancashire Borough Council has invested tens of millions of pounds into Skelmersdale to improve the quality of life of people living there and will continue to do so through its own initiatives and schemes it is working on with partners.

"Excellent progress is being made on the Skelmersdale town centre regeneration scheme that West Lancashire Borough Council is working on with partners St Modwen and the HCA to deliver new shops and leisure opportunities including a cinema, restaurants and bars.

"The scheme will also bring a host of other benefits, including a high street link between West Lancashire College and the existing town centre, the construction of new and attractive public spaces, together with improved lighting and pedestrian surfaces.

"This will make the town centre more attractive for shoppers and visitors looking to enjoy their leisure time. The scheme will also create in excess of 500 new jobs.A new play area will also be created to help cater for the needs of young families.

"The owners of The Concourse Shopping Centre mounted a legal challenge to the scheme, which was granted planning permission by the Council in 2015.

"The legal challenge was dismissed in the High Court in January 2016 after the Council successful defended the grant of planning permission. The appeal by the owners of the Concourse against the High Court decision was dismissed in the Court of Appeal in November 2016.

"The partners are now working to identify a time frame for delivery of the project and are engaged in progressive discussions with a number of potential occupiers who are interested in coming to Skelmersdale.

"It was pleasing to see in the MP's speech there was recognition of the Council's hard work with developing a new High Street/Town Centre and the Council is endeavouring to have a new Leisure Centre developed as part of that whole process.

"The Council is committed to ensuring the long-term success of Skelmersdale as a place to invest and do business.

"Together with members of the business community and other key partners, a significant amount of work is being done to help shape a successful and prosperous future for Skelmersdale. For example, the Skelmersdale Ambassadors Network is becoming a powerful group which aims to enable local businesses to raise their profile and as well showcase and celebrate Skelmersdale as a great place to live, work and invest.

"Progress is being made on the project for a new railway station in Skelmersdale. Earlier this year Lancashire County Council, in partnership with West Lancashire Borough Council and Merseytravel, identified the former Glenburn Sports College/Westbank Campus site as the preferred location for a railway station for Skelmersdale. A further study has since been commissioned to facilitate progress in respect of this key infrastructure project.

"The Council is in the latter stages of its record £65 million investment in its housing stock which will benefit its tenants for many years to come.

"Skelmersdale has some excellent leisure facilities and over the last few years the Council has made a number of improvements to Stanley Coronation Park, and Beacon Country Park which is a Green Flag Award winning park. Works on other exciting parks and leisure projects include a major improvement scheme for Tawd Valley Park, which the public is currently being consulted on."

The mayor of West Lancashire Councillor Neil Furey and the mayoress Julie Furey at the opening of the newly refurbished suite

Mayor checks in at Lancashire Manor

THE mayor of West Lancashire, Councillor Neil Furey has carried out the official opening of the newly refurbished Lathom Suite at the Best Western Plus Lancashire Manor Hotel in Up Holland.

Accompanied by the Mayoress, Julie Furey, the event was attended by Lancashire Manor directors Mark and Tim Timmerman, general manager Steve Hopkins and members of the hotel team.

Steve Hopkins said: "We listened to our clients who said they wanted a more modern function room with state of the art lighting and technology. We now have a room that beautifully complements the grandeur of The Great Hall with its stone clad walls, whilst offering something stylishly different."

Another trophy for battling Men-Aces

SKEM Men-Aces disability football team have added another trophy to their cabinet after winning the West Ham United Inclusive Tournament.

Before the game started the team wanted to get a result for team mate Ken Chadwick who is battling with cancer.

The team had hit the road at 4am on Monday, July 24 for a round trip of 460 miles to West Ham in London where they were invited to play in the tournament.

After a succession of very tough qualifying games, the Men-Aces found themselves in the semi finals against West Ham.

Resilience

The game was won 4-2 after a terrific display from the Skelmersdale team.

In the final they played Charlton, who are a deaf team and came out of the match as the winners.

Mim Eaton, who is a coach at the club, said: "I can honestly say hand on heart that this tournament win was without doubt one of the greatest achievement in the history of the Men-Aces.

The Men-Aces are trophy winners again

"I honestly do not know where the Men-Aces' guts, resilience and sheer determination to win came from but win they did with two truly stunning goals and a team performance that will live with me forever. Tears flowed, hearts were thumping, and the experience was so emotional for the team.

"The man of the tournament was Josh Winstanley. He is only 18, but he has never played at this level before, but he was fearless and brave."

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Armed Forces Fun Weekend proves a hit!

THE third Skelmersdale Veterans' Association Armed Forces Fun Weekend once again proved a hit with visitors to the town's Blaguegate Playing Fields.

Officially opened by the Mayor of West Lancs, Councillor Neil Furey, and organised by the association supported by the borough council, the two-day extravaganza aimed to raise funds for military charities.

Running from 10am to 6pm on both Saturday and Sunday, July 22 and 23, the event boasted a host of attractions.

Entry was free but donations were accepted at various places around the show site.

Superb displays of military vehicles from the West Lancs Military Vehicle Trust and the Airborne Comrades Association were among the main attractions.

Historia Normannis, always very popular at the Ormskirk Medieval Weekend, entertained the crowds with their combat displays and visitors could also try on the armour, take a closer look at the weapons and how they're made, or even try their hand at archery.

Everyday life in the 12th century was featured as well, with medieval cooking demonstrations and a fashion show displaying the different styles of dress of the times, plus displays of medieval crafts.

Other attractions included military memorabilia stalls and a vintage fire engine, while dog displays, a pony show, pig racing and a reptile show added a bit of 'animal magic' to the event.

Veterans' Association chairman, Alan Lewis, said: "The Armed Forces Weekend was a fantastic day out for all ages. The association would like to thank staff at Asda, Hill's, the Hare & Hounds public house in Skelmersdale and stall holders for their support."

Skelmersdale Veterans' Association events co-ordinator, Harry McKenzie, and friends welcome the Mayor of West Lancs, Councillor Neil Furey who officially opened last weekend's event.

LEFT: Three young visitors try on some military memorabilia assisted by Bill Duncan and Harry McKenzie of the Skelmersdale Veterans' Association

RIGHT: Providing a taste of war games medieval style were the ever-popular Historia Normannis at last weekend's military themed family fun day organised by Skelmersdale Veterans' Association.

County council funds new key bus services for town

Report by **Danielle Thompson**

MP welcomes decision to provide 'vital' public transport

BUS users in Skelmersdale are being reminded that changes to one of the town's key services came into operation on Monday (July 24).

The 313 service operated by Arriva and serving the Ashurst and Birch Green areas, has been withdrawn and replaced by two new services funded by Lancashire County Council.

Service 312 will operate from Skelmersdale Concourse to Wrightington Hospital via Appley Bridge, and service 313 will operate from Skelmersdale Concourse to Burscough, via Birch Green, Ashurst and Parbold.

The services, provided by Rotala Preston Bus, will run at similar times to the previous 313 service, from Monday to Saturday during the daytime.

Last week Lancashire County Council's cabinet agreed that the new services could be justified under the authority's policy for consideration of tendered bus services as a high number of people in Ashurst rely on the 313 bus to get to work, education and other vital services, with no alternative service available.

Timetables for the new services are available from Skelmersdale Concourse and Skelmersdale library.

You can also find them online by searching for bus timetables at lancashire.gov.uk.

Rosie Cooper has welcomed the county council's decision to provide what she described as "vital" public transport services.

Axed . . . Arriva will no longer provide the 313 service to the Ashurst and Birch Green areas

Following the announcement by Arriva North West earlier this year of plans to axe the 313, the West Lancs MP called for a replacement bus service to ensure residents were not left isolated.

She said: "We simply shouldn't have been here in the first place as the 313 was used for 85,000 journeys a year.

"It would have been totally wrong if residents were left without a replacement, especially in an area that relies heavily on these services.

"For many, the bus is their means to shops, work, and other important transport connections.

"To lose this bus service would have been a devastating blow for residents as they'd have been forced to walk miles or fork out for taxis."

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Hospital trust meeting brought forward

THE Southport and Ormskirk Hospital NHS Trust will hold its next board meeting on Thursday, July 27 starting at 9am - a week earlier than previously advertised.

Venue for the meeting is the Innovation Centre at Ormskirk and District General Hospital.

Members of the public are welcome to attend and observe the meeting. Anyone with a special requirement should contact the trust in advance on 01704 704783.

The agenda will be available on the trust website in advance of the meeting. Supporting papers will be made available on the day.

To reach the Innovation Centre from the main entrance, leave the hospital at the automatic doors before the restaurant and head towards the car park behind the restaurant and up a short flight of steps. Go across the car park and the Innovations Centre is the second of two buildings ahead on the right. Directions will be sign-posted from the main hospital building.

Swim star Fran tells Edge Hill graduands discipline and hard work are key to success

DISCIPLINE and hard work are the only keys to success.

That was the message delivered to Edge Hill University sport graduands by Olympic swimmer Francesca (Fran) Halsall at their graduation ceremony.

Fran, who was made an Honorary Doctor of Science at the ceremony, said it's never too early to start working towards a goal.

She said: "Daily discipline and hard work are the only keys to success. I've heard the words 'on your marks' followed by an electronic beep hundreds and hundreds of times and this procedure is an amazing anecdote to procrastination. You have no reason to think, just act – do it now."

Fran Halsall at Edge Hill

The 27-year-old Southport-born star retired earlier this year from a career that saw her represent Great Britain in the Beijing, London and Rio Olympics and compete in many other international competitions, breaking records and bringing home 14 gold, 14 silver and nine bronze medals from world, European and Commonwealth championships.

Now a businesswoman, having opened a new coffee shop in Altrincham in a shared venture with fellow Olympians, Jess Varnish and Liam Phillips, she encouraged those entering careers in elite sport to show emotion, rather than repress it.

"It's okay to show emotion, just not to your competitors. I've bawled my eyes out on national television which wasn't my finest moment but learning to vent to the right people at the right time made me stronger and bottling things up is never a good option."

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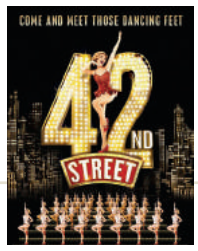

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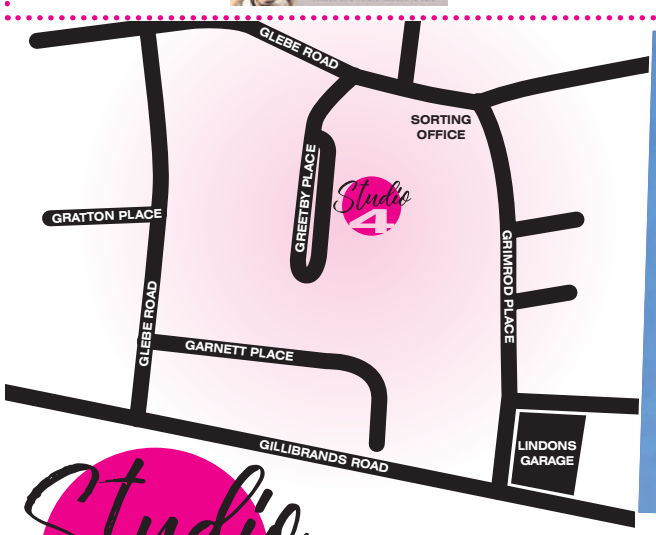

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Chance to learn about support and advice available at community information day

MEMBERS of the public will have the opportunity to learn more about services provided by the West Lancashire Community Safety Partnership WLCSP) and the voluntary sector at a special event in Skelmersdale on Thursday, August 3.

Organised by the WLCSP, the Community Information Day will be held at the Concourse shopping centre from 10am to 3pm.

The aim of the event is to enhance working relationships between local residents, the voluntary sector and service providers. It also aims to increase community confidence, reduce the fear of crime and provide advice to help improve the health and wellbeing of the community.

Advice and support on a range of issues will be available from a large number of different organisations including Lancashire Police, Lancashire Fire and Rescue Service, The Liberty Centre, West Lancashire CVS, Lancashire County Council Trading Standards and staff from the office of the Lancashire Police and Crime Commissioner.

Dave Tilleray

A number of representatives from West Lancs Council will also be present including the estates management team, financial inclusion team, voids and allocations team and the environmental enforcement team.

Dave Tilleray, chairman of the West Lancashire Community Safety Partnership, said: "This is a great opportunity for people from across West Lancashire to meet staff and volunteers from many different organisations to find out about services that are available for them.

"I hope that many residents will come along on the day to take advantage of this event and if they have questions on local or personal issues concerning them then hopefully they can find someone to help.

"The community safety partnership are grateful to the Concourse management team for hosting this event."

The information day involves a much wider level of engagement and support covering more diverse issues with valued representation from Young Addaction; Health Watch Lancashire; Active West Lancashire; Age UK Lancashire; The Birchwood Centre; Citizens Advice Lancashire West; Discover Drug and Alcohol Services; Groundwork; Macmillan Information & Support Services; Phoenix Futures (Housing Support); the Personal Support Unit; Prince's Trust team; Skelmersdale Veterans Association; Twinkle House; and Lancashire Care NHS Foundation Trust (Quit Squad and Contraception and Sexual Health Services).

Councillor Kevin Wright, West Lancs Council's portfolio holder for health and community safety, said: "The borough and county councils, and local emergency services and voluntary organisations are here to help local people, so come along and find out what they have to offer."

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Wish FM's street team will be at the Concourse, from 12 until 2pm, with their Swashbuckler, trying to evade capture around the Concourse. We will be giving out clues live on air as to the Swashbucklers whereabouts. By finding him and giving the correct phrase, you could have the chance to win £100 Concourse shopping vouchers. The street team will also be giving out chocolate coins and taking lots of photos.
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August 10 is opening date for new Co-op store on former pub site

THE new Co-op food store in Aughton, which has created 13 new jobs, is set to open to the public on Thursday, August 10.

Deputy Mayor of West Lancs, Councillor Noel Delaney, will perform the official opening at 10am although the store will be trading from 7am.

Occupying the site of the former Cockbeck Tavern pub on Town Green Lane, the 2,000 sq.ft. store will be open from 7am to 11pm Monday to Saturday and from 8am to 11pm on Sundays.

Co-op bosses say it will offer shoppers a wide selection of fresh and chilled products, plus "an extensive wine range" and have its own in-store bakery.

It will also have a cash machine and a customer car park.

Store manager, Dan Lee, said: "We are looking forward to being at the heart of the Aughton community, providing for all of our customers' convenience needs with our award-winning products and extensive range selection.

"Our team will provide a warm and welcoming atmosphere for our customers and community."

Parish in mourning as popular priest dies after short illness

Report by **Kenny Parker**

PARISHIONERS are mourning a popular West Lancashire clergyman who has died following a short illness.

Simon Glynn, vicar of St John the Baptist Church, Burscough passed away at the Royal Liverpool Hospital on Thursday, July 20.

Reverend Glynn had been in post at the church in Liverpool Road North since June 2016, having previously served for seven years at All Saints, Appleby Bridge, and Christ Church, Parbold where he acquired the nickname The Flying Vicar after arriving to take up the appointment via helicopter!

He also served as chaplain to Bishop Rawstorne Academy, Leyland, and was curate at St John's, Bursough.

Reverend Glynn was admitted to Southport Hospital on Saturday, July 8 before being transferred to the Royal Liverpool where he had surgery on the following Monday. News that he had sadly passed away last Thursday morning was posted on the church's website the same day.

A statement issued by Liverpool Diocese said: "We pray for Simon, his family and the whole community of St John's and Burscough. We echo the call for the family to be allowed to grieve in privacy."

The Bishop of Warrington, the Right Reverend Richard Blackburn, said: "On behalf of Bishop Paul Bayes and myself I want to express our deep sorrow at Simon's untimely death.

"He had returned to Burscough, where he had served his curacy, full of energy and enthusiasm and we grieve his loss. Most especially our thoughts and prayers are with his family and with his parishioners who will be in deep shock."

Reverend Simon Glynn

Reverend Glynn's funeral will take place at 10am on Friday (July 28) at St John the Baptist Church.

Area Dean, Duncan Petty, said: "Congregations and the community in Burscough came together for Sunday worship still coming to terms with the untimely death of Rev. Simon Glynn. Simon was not just a vicar but a long-time friend to many, having returned to Burscough where he served as curate.

"Sunday was an important opportunity for the church to start coming to terms with his death. First and foremost in their prayers were his wife Clare and the family who are dealing with their grief. The church community will come together again for Simon's funeral on Friday which will be a celebration of his life and all he meant to us."

A statement on the church's website reads: "Clare and the family would like the service to be a celebration of Simon's work and ministry. It won't be necessary for you to wear black. Please no flowers. A collection will be made in Simon's memory."

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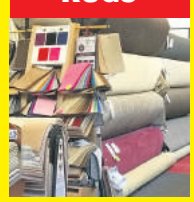

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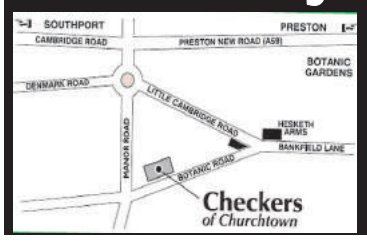

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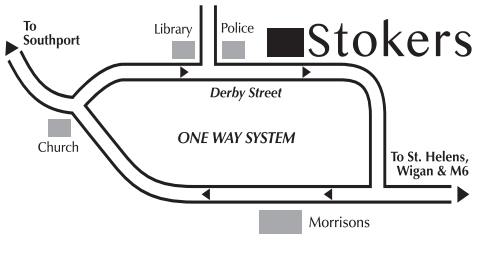

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MP pushes case for bypass and improved roads for borough

ROSIE Cooper has written to Transport Secretary, Chris Grayling to put the case for funding for an Ormskirk and Burscough bypass following the minister's announcement that there will be a consultation about investment in a major road network.

She has also written to both Lancashire County Council and West Lancashire Borough Council encouraging them to bid for funds to improve the road networks in the borough.

Ms Cooper said that previous schemes for the Ormskirk bypass had "fallen off the radar" due to lack of government funding and should now be considered within the new major road network to secure the money needed for investment in an Ormskirk and Burscough bypass.

Rosie Cooper MP

She added that West Lancashire has suffered from a huge increase in traffic movements with congestion mounting and roads struggling to cope, especially with east-west traffic.

The West Lancs MP said: "This is promising news from the Department for Transport and when they go out to consultation later this year about the major road network funding we need to have a scheme and be ready to apply.

"I have written to the leaders of Lancashire County Council and West Lancashire Borough Council to encourage them to get a scheme ready and take part in the consultation.

"I've also asked both leaders and the Transport Minister Chris Grayling to consider a bid to the Transport Investment Strategy for funding an Ormskirk and Burscough Bypass.

"A bypass in West Lancashire has been talked about for decades but I have not given up on it, certainly not in light of this potential to bid for government funding."

Free bike skills course for youngsters

A FREE Bikeability Level 1 course aimed at youngsters aged between five and 12 is being held at Coronation Park in Ormskirk on Monday, July 31 between 10am and noon.

Whether you are learning to ride on two wheels for the first time or wanting to improve your balance and ability, then this session will suit you.

Instructors will help you learn to control your bike, signal, improve observation and learn techniques to prepare you for road cycling in the future.

Councillor Yvonne Gagen, West Lancs Council's portfolio holder for leisure, said: "Bikeability is a really fun way to learn new skills on your bike. If you're between five and 12 ask your parents to book you a place."

Places must be booked in advance by ringing 01695 570258 or by email to anne.faulkner@westlancs.gov.uk.

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Scientist in running for one of sight loss charity's top awards

A SCIENTIST from Ormskirk has been shortlisted for one of the leading sight loss charity's top national awards.

Dr Simon Clark is one of the nominees for this year's Macular Society Awards for Excellence.

Based at the University of Manchester's faculty of biology, medicine and health, Dr Clark has been shortlisted in the Rising Star of the Year category for his ground-breaking research into macular degeneration.

His extensive studies have focused on the links between a person's complement system, part of the immune system, and age-related macular degeneration (AMD).

He has been praised by fellow professionals for helping to develop a greater understanding of how the complement system is regulated, as well as the connection between a patient's genetic predisposition to AMD and the development of the disease.

Dr Simon Clark

Dr Clark said: "It's always nice for your work to be recognised so it was a lovely surprise to have been shortlisted for this award.

"Our understanding of macular degeneration is growing all the time. I'm in a very fortunate position because the studies I'm undertaking have never been done before. It's exciting to think that I'm the first human being to be doing this and to see things that no-one else has."

Now in its ninth year, the Macular Society Awards for Excellence is run by the charity to celebrate the inspirational work done to provide services and care for people with macular disease all over the UK.

The overall winners will be announced at the society's national annual conference in London on September 16.

The Macular Society is the national charity for anyone affected by central vision loss. It has more than 350 support groups across the UK, which help to increase the confidence and independence of people affected by macular disease. Age-related macular degeneration (AMD) is the most common cause of sight loss in the UK, affecting more than 600,000 people.

Cathy Yelf, chief executive of the Macular Society, said: "We've heard great things about the work Dr Clark has been doing and being nominated for this award is a great testament to those efforts."

★ *THE Valencia Morris Dancers from Kirkby entertained residents at Springfield Court Nursing Home, Springfield Road, Aughton and their families at thir summer fair.*

Stalls included homemade pies, flans, and desserts prepared by the owner Wendy Wilkinson. Funds from the event will be donated to the Shy Lowen Horse Project in Thornton near Crosby.

★ **STOCKS Hall Care Home, in Nursery Avenue, Ormskirk home will be hosting their annual Summer Fair on Saturday, August 5 from 1 to 4 pm.**

Organisers say the event will feature stalls, face painting, entertainment, food & drink, plus much more!

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Champion LETTERS to the Editor

Clare House, 166 Lord Street, Southport PR9 0QA
tel 01704 392 400 email editor@champnews.com

Pristine Beacon is a shining example and a credit to council staff and volunteers

I WALKED my three dogs today on the Beacon Park half-expecting the Green Fayre impact not to have been cleared up.

It had, due no doubt to the efforts, of the Rangers crew of Dan, Hannah and Benedict and other staff, including volunteers.

The site was pristine and the effort to clean up must have been considerable.

My walking day was Tuesday, July 25, the first day after the fair and staff efforts are worthy of acknowledgement.

Beacon Park is a wonderful venue, so well looked after, and a credit to all front-line staff and council.

There are rumours Beacon Park could be hived off to SERCO which is not worthy of consideration.

Graham P Walker,
Up Holland

Selfish drivers turning pavement into a parking lot

I JUST want to say my piece about something that I, and a lot of other people, have noticed and are so annoyed about.

On the Alma Hill road in Up Holland, outside and opposite both the bowling green and Methodist church, there seems to be a lot of cars parking on the pavement.

This means that pedestrians have to walk in the road just so that these selfish drivers can use the pavement as a parking lot.

This is so unfair and not safe for pedestrians, especially older people or people with children in prams,

Please give a thought to non-car drivers, because one day there someone WILL get hurt.

Here is a picture (right) that I took walking up Alma Hill.

Keith Edwards, by email

PICTURE of the week

Glenn from Mountain Monkeys outdoor adventures group uses his buschcraft skills to ensure marshmallow toasting perfection at the Beacon Country Park Green Fayre. Picture by Martyn Snape.

Hospital receptionist was warm, welcoming and professional too

I VISITED Ormskirk Hospital for an assessment and I would love to praise the young receptionist Michelle, who spoke to me at Bickstaffe House.

She was very welcoming, came and took my details and was exceptional at her job.

She was so good, she went above and beyond on what was such a stressful time of my life.

A receptionist is the first link in a big chain and Michelle was exceptional, like a hotel receptionist. I've never seen a receptionist at a hospital treat people so warmly or professionally as her.

Heart operation patient,
Burscough

People should remember to clear up horse muck too

People, quite rightly, have to clean up after their dogs.

Why do people not clean up after their horses?

Why should people's car wheels and driveways be unclean due to lack of consideration by horse owners.

Rose Langan,
Address supplied

Drop us a line...

IF you've got a view on a topic of local or national interest which you would like to share with the readers of the Champion, why not drop us a line?

Letters to the editor should be concise, preferably no more than 350 words, and should include the sender's name, address and contact details, although not necessarily for publication.

The editor reserves the right to edit all items submitted for favour of publication.

Correspondents preferring not to have their name and/or their address published may provide a suitable nom de plume.

Letters can be posted or emailed to the respective addresses listed at the top of this page.

■ PLEASE note: All views and opinions expressed in letters to the editor are solely those of the authors.

Local asthma sufferers invited to take part in digital project pilot

I AM writing to let you know that people in your area with asthma are being invited to take part in a pilot scheme for a new digital health project aimed at reducing their risk of having an asthma attack.

Asthma UK's 12-Week Asthma Support Programme, funded by a Department of Health Innovation Challenge Fund grant, provides expert advice, activities and tips sent straight to your smartphone.

The pilot is open to people who have had an asthma attack in the last year, are aged between 18-67, live in England and have a smartphone.

Once signed up to the pilot, those involved will receive personalised digital support that will be available to them via their smartphones.

Anyone interested in taking part in the 12-Week Asthma Support Programme pilot can find out more and sign up by going to the website at www.asthma.org.uk/asthma-support-programme.

Michael Clarke,
Asthma UK

War isn't good for anyone's physical or mental health

AFTER the increasing presence of the military in our schools surely the NHS is sacrosanct.

I was shocked to read in your paper that the head of nursing at Southport and Ormskirk hospitals, Kath Higgins, has used her position as a lieutenant colonel in the army reserve to run an event in hospital grounds for SSAFA the Armed Forces charity.

I find it disgraceful that the military should get preferential treatment in the NHS at public expense.

I can understand public goodwill towards the Armed Forces but Armed Forces week is nothing but a smokescreen for falling recruitment and manipulation of young minds.

It engenders a culture which normalises militarism and war as the only way to resolve conflict.

It is open to exploitation by unscrupulous politicians.

It is not about 'defence' but the illegal aggressions against Iraq, Libya and Afghanistan and all the resulting violence, death and misery to the armed forces of all the countries involved and innocent civilians.

As head of nursing, does Kath Higgins not see the whole picture and realise that war is not good for the physical and mental health of anyone?

Bernard Draper,
Merseyside Peace Network

Giant success story!

More than 400 budding wordsmiths enter library group's schools writing competition

MORE than 400 children from nine primary schools took part in the Giant Story Competition organised by the Friends of Tarleton Library.

A total of 416 entries were submitted by youngsters aged between five and 11.

Years 1 and 2 pupils were asked to write a story about a giant in no more than 250 words; Years 3 and 4 had to write a story about a giant, a forest and a castle with no word limit; and Years 5 and 6 had to write a story about a giant, a forest and a castle with a maximum word count of 500.

Trophies and book-tokens were given to the winner and two runners-up in each of the three age categories and the winners also received a giant goody bag.

Certificates were awarded to children whose stories were highly commended and commended by the judges and all entrants receive a certificate of participation.

A team of volunteer judges rated the stories according to five criteria - originality, plot, character, language and overall enjoyment - and a panel made up of members of The Friends of Tarleton Library and the Lancashire Authors' Association made the final decisions.

Prizes were presented by the Mayor and Mayoress of West Lancashire, Councillor Neil and Mrs Julie Furey at a special awards ceremony at Tarleton Bowling Club.

The mayor and mayoress with winners Travis Buck, William Snape and Jessica Goodier.

Vivien Mumford, chair of The Friends of Tarleton Library, said: "We were thrilled to receive so many entries and hope to make the story competition an annual event. The judges have had a very hard job on their hands because so many of the stories were well-written and showed lots of imagination.

"We are hoping to meet some of the young authors over the summer holidays, as there are plenty of exciting activities on offer here at the library."

The winning stories will be published on the Lancashire Authors Association Website, www.lancashireauthorsassociation.co.uk/.

Winners and runners-up were as follows:

Years 1 &2: 1st Travis Buck (Y1, Hesketh with Becconsall All Saints CE Primary); 2nd Jack Marlor (Y1, Hesketh with Becconsall All Saints CE Primary); 3rd Allyssa Ridsdale (Y1, Little Hoole Primary).

Years 3 & 4: 1st Jessica Goodier (Y4, Tarleton Holy Trinity CE Primary); 2nd Isabel Cook (Y3, Tarleton Community Primary); 3rd Bryony Rawlinson (Y4, Tarleton Holy Trinity CE Primary).

Years 5 & 6: 1st William Snape (Y6, Rufford CE Primary); 2nd Aimee Rimmer (Y5, Hesketh with Becconsall All Saints CE Primary); 3rd Kian Colman-Fielden (Y5, Little Hoole Primary).

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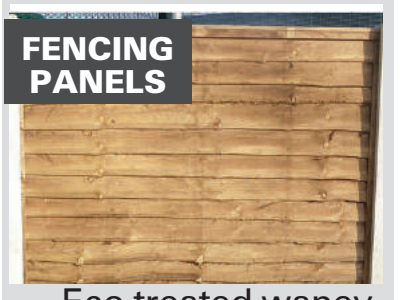

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Grant boost for charity

A WEST Lancashire charity has won funding to help take adults with learning disabilities on a fun, short activities break to the Lake District.

Sporting Challenge was set up in 2008 by a group of parent and carers of adults with learning disabilities concerned about their health and fitness.

The charity provides 'sessional workers' to take the adults on activities including ten pin bowling, aerobics, swimming and boccia at centres across the borough during the evenings and sometimes at weekends.

Officials of the organisation are celebrating after receiving a £750 grant from The Rank Foundation which they say will assist with a planned trip to Keswick in September.

Edward McCarthy, Sporting Challenge activities co-ordinator, said: "The award is fantastic news and will help to finance our planned short break to the Calvert Trust Centre near Keswick for an activities-based weekend. Our group will really enjoy the break and at the same time their families will also be able to have a brief respite from their carer duties."

For more information on Sporting Challenge activities visit www.sporting-challenge.org.uk; call 07971 299606; or email Edward@divinedays.co.uk.

School cooks taste competition success

TWO cooks from schools in West Lancashire have won accolades in the annual Local Authority Caterers Association (LACA) Finishing Touches Catering exhibition.

The competition is aimed at all levels of staff employed in school catering and is organised in association with the Craft Guild of Chefs.

Twelve different categories include a range of skills from cake baking and decorating, to floral sugarcraft and cakes for special diets.

Sharon Webster from Brookfield Park Primary School in Skelmersdale was awarded a merit in the filled and/or covered sponge, gateau or cake category.

And Rachel Castles-Bathie from Aughton Town Green Primary also earned a merit in the section for cakes suitable for a special diet.

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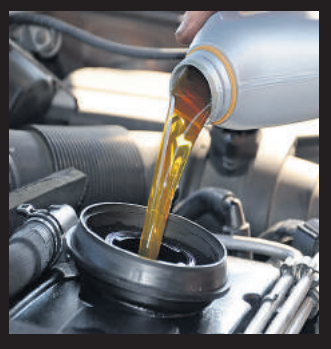

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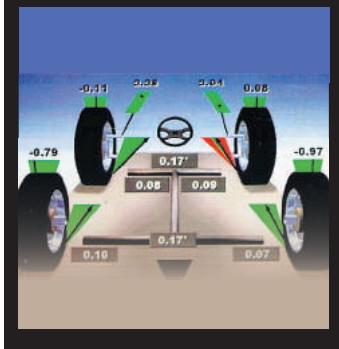

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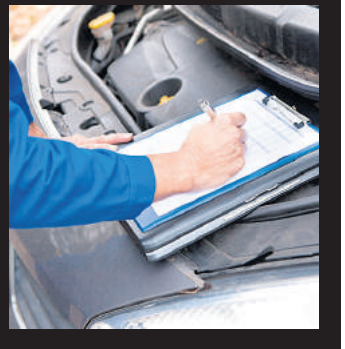

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Students could get TV licence refunds

TV Licensing are encouraging students in Ormskirk who have moved home for the summer to claim their licence refunds.

Since, April 1 this year TV Licensing has changed the way refunds are calculated to make it easier for customers to apply. This means more students will benefit from a refund as they can now claim for any full months left on their licence.

Latest figures from the Higher Education Statistics Agency show that in the 2015/16 period there were 229,485 students in higher education across the North West.

If students bought their licence last October and moved out in May, they could receive a refund worth around £48.50.

In order to qualify, students need to be leaving their halls or rented accommodation and be moving to a licensed address.

Applying is simple and can be done online or over the phone. Students need to have their TV licence details to hand and evidence to show their licence is no longer needed, such as a copy of the end of their tenancy agreement.

Caroline McCourt, spokesperson for TV Licensing, said: "Applying for a refund is quick and easy and we encourage all students who are eligible to take advantage of it. It is important students buy a TV licence at the earliest opportunity when starting university to take advantage of the flexible payment options available to them and avoid a fine of up to £1,000."

A licence is needed for watching and recording live television and watching or downloading BBC programmes on iPlayer. This applies whether using a TV set, laptop, mobile or any other equipment.

To arrange a refund or change address, simply visit: www.tvlicensing.co.uk/studentinfo, or call TV Licensing on 0300 790 6113.

£400 grant boost for Timesavers

A WEST Lancs charity for adults with additional needs has been boosted by a £400 grant.

Timesavers aims to overcome barriers to the employability of people with additional needs by supporting them to gain further skills and experience in all aspects of office work and computers, as well as helping them to improve their communication skills and confidence.

They were awarded the joint grant by the Duchy of Lancaster and the Community Link Foundation based in Southport to continue their work.

Edward McCarthy from Timesavers said: "We wish to thank the Lieutenant of Lancashire, Lord Shuttleworth and the Community Link Foundation for their generous awards.

"We know from feedback that our work is very beneficial and with extra funding we can carry on this good work and work towards new opportunities with our trainees."

● Three individuals from Timesavers, Jon Snead, Grace Finley and Chris Watson were awarded certificates in recognition of their voluntary service at the recent West Lancs Borough Council Volunteer Awards Evening held in Ormskirk.

They were presented with their awards, along with 21 other volunteers, by the Mayor of West Lancs, Councillor Neil Furey.

Golf day raises £2,500 for We Love Manchester Emergency Fund appeal

A CHARITY golf day at Mossock Hall Golf Club raised more than £2,500 for the We Love Manchester Emergency Fund appeal or those injured and affected by the May terror attack.

A total of 51 golfers teed up in the event at the club in Bickerstaffe organised by Bryan Morley and Martin Flynn.

All the competitors wore specially-designed T-shirts sponsored by Fiddlers Lancashire Crisps of Rufford and a raffle was also held with prizes donated by local businesses.

The golf day raised £900 and the raffle £602, while Mike McCombe, landlord of The Hop Vine in Burscough, donated all proceeds from the sale of a keg of beer and also had collection buckets at the pub, together raising £1,100.

Bryan Morley said: "The golf day was brilliant. We had 50 men and one woman taking part, there was a presentation at the golf club and everyone went back to the Hop Vine for a buffet."

Some of the golfers who took part in the charity day at Mossock Hall Golf Club

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Table-top sale in aid of Kenyan-based charity project

MEMBERS of the Ormskirk Christadelphians are holding a table-top sale at their hall in Moorgate on Saturday, July 29 from 10am to 4pm.

The event is being held to help raise funds for various aid projects across the world via the Christadelphian Meal a Day Fund charity.

The charity has been sponsors of Nalondo Special School for Children with Disabilities in Kenya since its foundation nearly 20 years ago.

Projects supported include feeding programmes; the supply of clean water with a borehole; the setting up of a health care team and a health service to meet the children's complex physical needs.

The church (via the fund) sponsors a feeding programme at Luuya Academy in Kenya where they have helped provide a daily breakfast for the pupils as well as buying a rain water storage tank.

The table-top sale will feature bric-a-brac and greetings cards and there will also be refreshments, including some Kenyan cakes called Maandazis. Information on the Meal-a-Day charity and the activities and beliefs of the Christadelphians will also be available.

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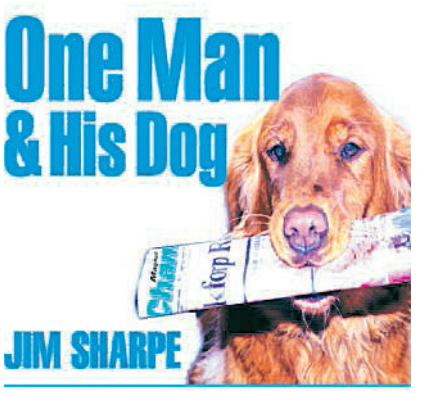

Whatever they call my age I'm old enough to know what's best for me

AS you may have guessed, I am generally no fan of political correctness. And one area where it is currently causing me confusion is age.

These days one is not supposed to write about old people, or even pensioners. I'm not at all sure if senior citizen is in or out at the moment, I think the present 'acceptable' term is older person, though I may be wrong.

What brought this on was not what people call me, it was a visit to a supermarket. I was waiting to buy cigarettes (yes, I know) in a queue in which everyone ahead of me appeared to be in a dilemma over which lottery tickets to buy, so I whiled away the time reading whatever notices were about.

Two of them in particular caught my attention. One referred to youngsters buying ciggies, the other to them buying (or being bought) alcohol. But the cigarette information referred to young people under 16, while the other, of course, mentioned the legal drinking age of 18.

Don't misunderstand me. I do not, and never would, advocate that young people should be allowed to buy tobacco or alcohol. What occurred to me is that these age limits were originally imposed because it was thought that youngsters had not yet had enough experience of life to be able to make a sound judgement of whether to take noxious items such as tobacco or alcohol into their bodies.

Wait a minute though, isn't at least one political party striving to let 16-year-olds have the vote? You know, let these people who are adjudged too young to make a reasoned judgement on whether or not to poison their lungs or livers, are never-the-less quite capable of deciding what government we should have. And yes, I accept the argument that these youngsters are deemed old enough to fight for their country but they are told what to do (and probably think for that matter).

Anyway, returning to us older folk, you may remember some weeks ago I was talking about where I prefer to sit when travelling by bus which I do quite a lot. You know, the (how shall I put it without causing all kinds of grief to descend upon my head?) older and less steady on their pins at the front, the kids historically always at the rear, and 'ordinary' folk, in which I still hope to include myself, somewhere in between.

Our buses are littered with safety notices, including the instruction to remain seated until the bus stops if you want to get off. Oddly, another notice tells us how many standing passengers are allowed, which surely, by that standard, should be none?

What I have increasingly noticed recently is that older folk who may be a trifle unsteady on their pins, sensibly obey the 'keep your seat' advice. But the rest of us, unless encumbered by heavy bags, usually make our way towards the front as the bus approaches the stop - or we used to.

These days though it seems that those at the rear of the vehicle (the younger element) are also waiting not only until the bus has actually stopped, but often a little longer, presumably ending conversations or whatever else they are up to.

In this age of litigation I fully understand why the bus company puts up its notice in the first place. But the simple fact of the matter is that if every passenger waited until the bus was at a standstill before making a move, every timetable would have to be amended and every journey would take considerably longer.

Some rules are obviously made to be broken and I reckon this is one of them. If it is considered safe for me to stand, perhaps for a considerable part of my journey, then why is it too dangerous for me to stand for the final few yards?

I reckon I'm old enough to make a sensible decision about the degree of risk to me that is acceptable. But when I was 16? Not so sure...

Summer of fun in store, say council chiefs

Art, music, motors and festivals on the menu as town aims to draw the crowds

WEST Lancs Council chiefs say residents and visitors to Ormskirk can look forward to a series of great fun events in the town this summer with music, art, delicious gingerbread and fabulous cars all on the menu in the wake of the recent successful Love Your Local Market celebrations in the town.

Councillor Ian Moran, council leader and portfolio holder for economic regeneration, said: "Visitors can find so much to enjoy in Ormskirk so people who haven't visited recently really should come and take a look.

"A range of facilities, including a large number of independent shops and restaurants, are complemented by Ormskirk Market every Thursday and Saturday which goes from strength to strength.

"And with many exciting events also due to take place, Ormskirk really is the place to be this summer."

A must for art lovers is the Lancashire Open Exhibition at the Chapel Gallery.

Running until Wednesday, September 6, the vibrant exhibition, formerly the West Lancashire Open Exhibition, is a superb collection of art by accomplished artists from across the UK and is a highlight in the region's arts calendar.

More than 150 artworks will be on display at the event from a wide range of artistic media.

Meanwhile, food lovers will have their tastebuds tickled at the Moor Street Night Market on Saturday, July 29 from 6.30 to 9.30pm.

Local food and drink establishments will be setting up on the street to serve mouthwatering food, as well as cocktails, craft beers and artisan gin.

Other street food purveyors will also be selling food, and there will be live music and street entertainment. Entry to the market is free and the event is supported by the Ormskirk Town Centre Management Group.

The exciting Ormskirk Gingerbread Festival also comes to town on Saturday, July 29 with a huge range of fun attractions for all the family from 10am to 4pm.

Children can enter the gingerbread competition with prizes donated by local shops and businesses and there will be vintage games for them to play.

The whole family can enjoy music from the Songbirds Community Choir, Ormskirk Ukulele Band, the Burscough Street Disco and the Fairground organ played by Warinus Strode. Circus entertainers, provided by Edge Hill University, will also perform around the town centre.

The festival is organised by Ormskirk Community Partnership (OCP) and supported by the Ormskirk Town Centre Management Group.

Displays

In addition, the community partnership and local historian Gerard Swarbrick will have displays of photographs and maps of Ormskirk from different eras. There will be other heritage materials on show and Ormskirk and District Family History Group will advise people on tracing family history. The heritage theme continues with tours of Ormskirk Parish Church.

Another treat for music lovers will be the Summer Music Festival in Coronation Park with concerts on at the park bandstand every Saturday and Sunday from July 29 to August 26.

Last but not least, on Sunday, August 27 huge crowds are expected to flock to the town again for the Ormskirk MotorFest, organised by Aintree Circuit Club and supported by West Lancs Council.

The annual motoring extravaganza is one of the biggest free family events in the North West and thousands of people are expected to come and admire more than 300 cars and motorcycles from all eras of motoring that will be on display, and enjoy fun activities throughout the day.

For more information visit www.westlancs.gov.uk/motorfest.

The Love Your Local Market event in Ormskirk town centre was a great success. Photo: Ian Robinson

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New champion vows to help county's older folk lead more active lives

LANCASHIRE County Council's new Champion for Older People, County Councillor Joan Burrows has vowed to support residents to lead more active lives.

In her new role she will advise the leader and cabinet members on how the authority can support older people to be fit and healthy, and live independently.

Councillor Burrows, who previously worked for Preston Council for Voluntary Services and Preston Citizens' Advice Bureau, said: "Times are changing - 70 is the new 50 and older people can now expect to live for many years after they retire.

"Older people are wanting to live a much more active lifestyle and get involved with activities such as walking, cycling, learning how to use new technology and studying for different qualifications. I want to do all I can to make sure they have the opportunity to learn and stay active.

"I have experience of working with many community groups from my previous jobs and volunteering, and will work closely with them, the cabinet members and older people in Lancashire, to see if we can make the most of what's on offer.

Lancashire's Older People's Champion, County Councillor Joan Burrows

"We want to continue to address older people's concerns , such as preventing falls and support for people living with conditions like dementia.

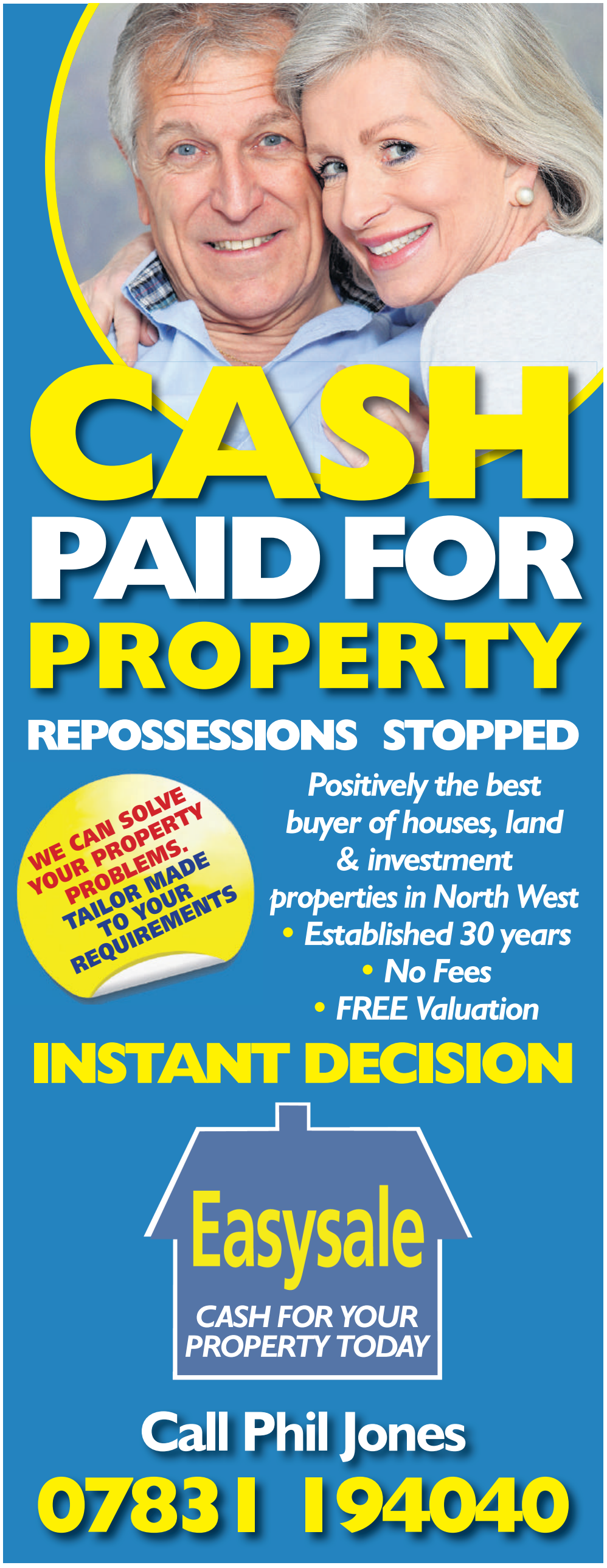
"I also want to focus on what people can do, and ensure people have the support they need to continue to make a positive contribution to life in Lancashire."

Cllr. Burrows has a £10,000 fund for this financial year to support her activities as champion and is inviting groups who want to apply for grant funding to get in contact.

She added: "I will be looking to hand out grants to groups across Lancashire to support them in their work to help older people develop new skills, make a positive contribution and continue to live independently.

"We'll also be hosting events, so that local people and groups can find out about the work that's being done, including an event to mark the International Day of Older Persons in October."

Any groups wanting to apply for a grant can contact Councillor Burrows by emailing joan.burrows@lancashire.gov.uk.



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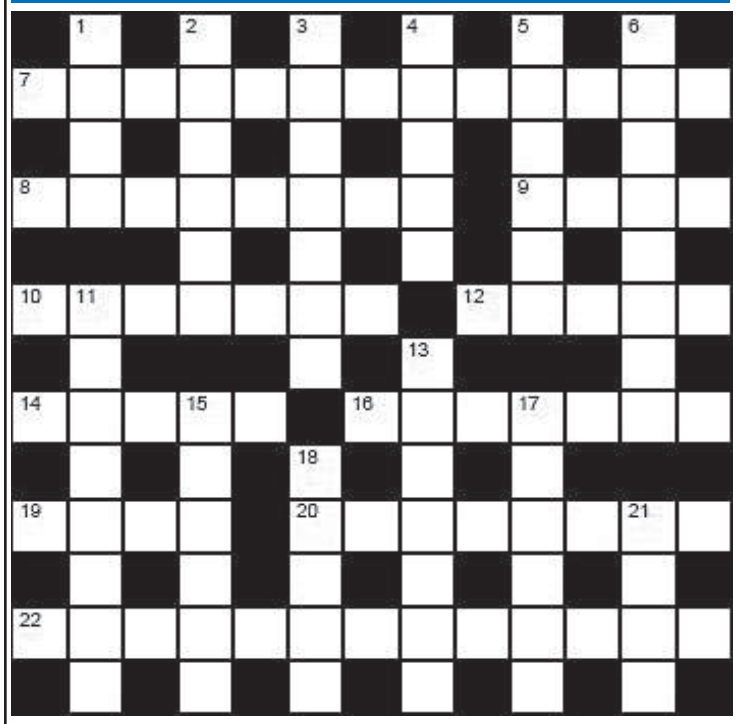

Last week's solutions:

Across: 7. Silica. 8. Parcel. 9. Slip. 10. Protrude. 11. Savoury. 13. Spite. 15. Boron. 16. Almanac. 18. Clothing. 19. Lair. 21. Exhort. 22. Notice.

Down: 1. Kill. 2. Disproportion. 3. Vampire. 4. Spook. 5. Pre-Raphaelite. 6. Vendetta. 12. Apoplexy. 14. Elegant. 17. Girth. 20. Inch.

ACROSS

7. International relations based on the use of military or economic might to influence the actions and decisions of other governments (5, 8)
8. Of only average quality; not very good (7)
9. System of weights used mainly for precious metals and gems (4)
10. Greyish-fawn colour flecked with brown (7)
12. The part of the human leg between the hip and the knee (5)
14. Visible particles emitted from a burning substance (5)
16. Stiff untanned leather (7)
19. Pieces of grain husk separated from flour after milling (4)
20. Many (8)
22. Subbuteo for instance (5, 8)

DOWN

1. Mechanical or habitual repetition of something to be learned (4)
2. Monotony (6)
3. Exceptional (7)
4. Tree of the Birch family (5)
5. Sudden sharp pain in the side of the body (6)
6. An instance of uncontrollable natural forces in operation (3,2,3)
11. Relating to heraldry or heraldic devices (8)
13. A computer small and light enough to be held in one hand (7)
15. Benevolent (6)
17. As a result of this document or utterance (6)
18. Draw up air audibly through the nose (5)
21. Caribbean citrus fruit, a cross between a tangerine, grapefruit, and orange (4)

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‘Special’ teddy auction to raise funds for memorial to terror attack victims

THE owner of a popular doll and teddy bear ‘hospital’ has created two special bears in memory of two of the victims of the Manchester Arena terror attack.

Jeannie Pritchard, who runs Pritchard’s Doll and Teddy Hospital and café in Liverpool Road North, Burscough, designed the traditional bears to raise funds for a memorial to Georgina Callander 18, and eight-year-old Tarleton Community Primary School pupil, Saffie Rose Roussos.

The bears have pink and yellow pads as they were the girls' favourite colours.

One will go on display at Manchester Museum before being auctioned off for the One Love charity fund, while the other will go on permanent display at Jeannie’s shop.

The special teddy bear

Jeannie said: “I really wanted to do something to help so I redesigned the pattern and style of a Paddington-style bear that I have previously made to make it more personal for the charity.

“The bear is made by hand from premium-quality fabric and the paws are a vintage velvet in Saffie and Georgina’s favourite colours. Saffie loved pink and blue, the colour of the bears' noses, while Georgina loved yellow.

“I am hoping to have it displayed in the Manchester Museum for a short period then either sold to the highest offer or sealed bid at auction.

“There will only be two bears made in this design, this one and a replica for my teddy bears coffee shop with slight alterations to the body.

“This makes the charity bear the only one of its kind for sale. It has featured on BBC Radio 2 so hopefully a collector will buy this fantastic little bear.

“The money raised will go to the One Love fund to add to the funds for an everlasting memorial for those who lost their lives and those who were injured.”

Care home residents enjoy a day down on the farm

CARE home residents enjoyed a day out at the Hope View Sensory Farm in Astley - courtesy of big-hearted members of the Prince’s Trust Ormskirk Team 14.

The trust team used the proceeds of a supermarket bag-packing fundraiser to take residents from the Hillcroft Residential Care Home in Long Lane, Aughton on a day out to the farm.

Megan Campbell, event organiser at the care home, said: “The farm is absolutely fantastic and has been made specially for people who live with dementia, fully catering all of their needs.

“All the residents who went on the trip are living with dementia and they loved feeding the llamas, holding the chicks, nuzzling horses and even did a spot of fishing!

“The owner and volunteers at the farm are absolutely incredible with such passion for the farm and the joy it brings to people with dementia and their carers.”

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Dunscar Garden Centre has remained independent since it was established in 1948 and is proud of its reputation for selling high quality and often unusual plants. Over the last few years the centre has diversified to become more of a leisure destination and now sells interior, conservatory and outdoor furniture, fashion clothing, gifts and cookware.

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Web: www.dunscar.com
Email: dunscar01@googlemail.com

OPENING TIMES
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Sunday - 10am - 4:30pm

The Four Seasons Bistro

Following a complete expansion, Dunscar Garden Centre on the A565 near Tarleton is now proud to boast it’s new catering facilities. The brand new Four Seasons Bistro offers a fully licenced fine dining experience and promotes the best of local and seasonal produce. The Bistro is open for lunches and high tea on Wednesdays to Saturdays.

The new bistro follows hot on the heels of several other changes to the catering at Dunscar, including a high quality carvery on Sundays and Fish and Chip Frydays in the Garden Café. Most of the food on the menu of the Garden Café is home-made, including the very popular cakes, pies and quiches. The Garden Café is open 7 days a week.

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- Not valid in conjunction with the Loyalty card
- Offer limited to one visit and for a maximum of four people
- Offer ends Saturday 5th August 2017

TWO FOR £10
Dunscar’s Full English Breakfast
- Not valid in conjunction with the Loyalty card
- Offer ends Friday 11th August 2017

TWO FOR £10
Afternoon Tea Special in the Garden Café
- Comprises tea or filter coffee, sandwiches and a scone with jam and cream for each person
- Not valid in conjunction with the Loyalty card
- Offer ends Sunday 6th August 2017

TWO FOR £12 ON FRIDAY
Fish & Chips Offer
- Not valid in conjunction with the Loyalty card
- Offer ends Friday 11th August 2017

Care trust urges under-25s to keep their summer loving safe

WITH the summer holidays fast approaching, Lancashire Care's Contraception and Sexual Health Service (CaSH) is encouraging safe sex to help prevent unplanned pregnancies and sexually transmitted infections (STIs).

The service is reminding young people of the importance of looking after their health, including protecting themselves from UV rays, keeping an eye on alcohol intake and practising safe sex.

In 2014, one in 10 young people who took a Chlamydia test in Lancashire tested positive for the infection. Chlamydia often has no signs or symptoms so it is really important that people who have put themselves at risk get tested.

Sue Capstick, CaSH manager at Lancashire Care NHS Foundation Trust, said: "Summer sees a high volume of under- 25s visiting holiday destinations and festivals, and the message from the service is have fun, stay safe and take precautions so you don't bring back any unwanted souvenirs.

"Our aim is to ensure young people are not afraid to talk about and take charge of their own sexual health. We provide a range of confidential services, offering testing and treatment of STIs, contraception and non-judgmental advice and support when needed the most."

To contact the team, book an appointment or find out about 'drop-ins' call 01772 401140. The service is free and accessible to everyone.

There are clinics in various locations and different session times across Lancashire. To find out more visit www.lancashire-care.nhs.uk/cash-lancashire.

Members of the Holy Trinity congregation on their clear-up day

Churchyard clear-up uncovers grave dating back to 1843

A GROUP of volunteers gave up their weekend to give their local church graveyard a much-needed tidy-up.

During the operation at Holy Trinity Church in Bickerstaffe the very first grave, dating back to 1843, was revealed.

One of the organisers of the event, Edward McCarthy, said: "The current graveyard has been in use since 1844. It is maintained during the year by a combination of a contract gardener and church members.

"It will be full by the end of the year but the new extension at the back of the current graveyard was consecrated early this year.

"Our volunteers cleared a lot of vegetation and trimmed trees and bushes. Lots of leaves, twigs and litter were also removed and the first grave from 1843 was revealed."

Heritage group tribute to fallen

MEMBERS of the West Lancashire Heritage Association are pictured *(above)* at the new Scarisbrick Village Hall War Memorial, dedicated to men of the village who lost their lives in the First World War.

Scarisbrick Parish Council paid £2,500 towards the cost of the memorial and the heritage association made a matching donation to pay for the design/manufacture and erection. The memorial also bears the name of West Lancashire Heritage Association.

Bob Ireland, membership secretary of the WLHA, said: "This is an example of where some of our money is going and we do hope members approve."

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What a couple of sparklers!

Brenda and Marion with Henry

Report by **Henry James**

TWO eagle-eyed housekeepers at Edge Hill University proved a couple of sparklers when they recovered a valuable piece of jewellery from inside a vacuum cleaner during a busy graduation week.

Brenda Wilkinson and Marion Perry ripped open the dust bag of their Henry Hoover after hearing how a parent had lost her engagement ring during a graduation ceremony.

After delving through the dust and dirt they found the large, sparkly, flower-shaped diamond surrounded by smaller diamonds and returned it to the grateful owner.

Brenda, who has worked at the university for eight years, said: "We heard that one of the graduate's parents had been clapping during the ceremony and had watched her diamond setting come flying out of her engagement ring.

"She watched it roll down the seating rows in front but couldn't find it after the ceremony. She was absolutely devastated as she's been married for over 40 years."

Marion, who has also worked alongside Brenda for eight years, added: "We were halfway through vacuuming the hall when we heard what had happened.

"We ripped open the bag and through all the dirt and dust we could see it sparkling. It was beautiful and we spotted it straight away.

Thrilled

"Apparently the woman was thrilled to get it back and was overcome with emotion. I'm just so glad we could help."

The hard-working duo who clean buildings across campus, including accommodation halls, are no strangers to finding treasured possessions.

Marion added: "We tend to find wallets, mobile phones, cameras and keys across campus and return them to their owners but this is the first time we've had a mission to find something so valuable and precious."

Earlier this month the pair received an 'Above and Beyond' student award after being nominated by residents of The Hollies who praised their happy, friendly and conscientious nature.

Students also praised the care and interest they took in their studies and research and how they always offered a shoulder to cry on if needed.

School's helping hand for Sam's charity mission

STUDENT Sam Brocklebank has passed the halfway mark of his fundraising target to finance a sponsored ascent of Mount Kilimanjaro for charity later this simmer, with more than a little help from staff and pupils at an Ormskirk school.

The 21-year-old former Champion distributor is aiming to 'deliver' a copy of the paper to his most unusual location yet when he tackles Africa's highest peak - and plans to celebrate reaching the top by taking a selfie while holding a copy of the Champ!

Sam, a second-year film and media student at Edge Hill University, is planning to climb the 5,895-metre peak in Tanzania - the world's highest free-standing mountain - to raise funds for the charity Dig Deep, which provides fresh water and sanitation for schools in Africa.

The former St Bede's School pupil from Delph Park Avenue, Ormskirk has to raise £2,800 to finance the trip with at least half of that total going to the charity.

He had already raised £600 to date by doing sponsored-bag packs at local supermarkets and holding a 24-hour hangar challenge at a wall-climbing centre.

Now his total has been boosted by £900 after Ormskirk School, where his mum Julie works, held a sponsored mufti and activity day.

Anyone wishing to sponsor Sam can donate at mydonate.bt.com/fundraisers/sambrocklebank1.

Sam Brocklebank with staff and students at Ormskirk School who raised £900 to support his quest to climb Mount Kilimanjaro and raise funds for charity

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Appeal for social media support for hepatitis awareness campaign

HEALTH professionals at Lancashire Care NHS Foundation Trust will aim to raise awareness of the signs and symptoms of hepatitis by participating in a global social media campaign to mark World Hepatitis Day.

The World Health Organization has officially designated Friday, July 28 as World Hepatitis Day. The theme of the campaign against hepatitis this year is 'Elimination' and organisations across the world are being encouraged to use social media to raise awareness about viral hepatitis.

People are being called on to send messages on social media platforms, such as Twitter, containing images of themselves with short personal messages describing what they are doing starting with the words 'I am' along with the #ShowYourFace hashtag.

Helen Newsham, healthcare support worker in the communicable disease services at the trust, said: "The World Health Organization's campaign is focusing on individual human faces to highlight that hepatitis is relevant to everyone, everywhere in the world and that helping to eliminate it is something we can all support.

"Hepatitis can affect anyone and is the cause of thousands of deaths a day worldwide. Knowing the facts saves lives and getting tested is quick and simple so we encourage anyone concerned to contact us on 01257 245414."

The communicable diseases team works with healthcare professionals across West Lancs, Chorley and South Ribble to raise awareness of the disease.

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OLD BED RECYCLING SERVICE

Bernie Marsden

Whitesnake guitarist set to rock into town for anniversary of band's No. 1 Billboard hit

A MEMBER of a rock band which enjoyed chart success in the 1970s and 80s is set to make a guest appearance at an Ormskirk recording studio.

Bernie Marsden, one of the original members of Whitesnake who wrote a number of the group's biggest hits alongside vocalist, David Coverdale, will be holding a signing and jamming session at the Sound Affects Premier guitar store, recording studio and music school in New Court Way from 10am to 12.30pm on Saturday, August 5.

Formed in 1978, Whitesnake a string of UK top 10 albums including Ready an' Willing, Come an' Get It, Saints & Sinners and Slide It In.

Bernie will also be playing at a concert at the company's sister store, Sound Affects Music in Dunnings Bridge Road, Aintree at 7pm on Friday, August 4.

Andy Wright, manager of the Ormskirk store, said: "We are holding the meet-and-greet and autobiography signing as a celebration of the 30th anniversary of one of Whitesnake's most notable songs, Here I Go Again, reaching No. 1 on the Billboard Hot 100 chart in 1987.

"We will also be unveiling a signature version of Bernie's guitar and as well as the meet-and-greet, we will also be running some jamming sessions in the morning and afternoon for our customers to play alongside him and holding a book-signing of his autobiography."

Civic reception for Prince's Trust team

THE Mayor and Mayoress of West Lancashire, Councillor Neil and Mrs Julie Furey, will host a civic reception in the council chamber at 6pm today (Wednesday, July 26) for members of the Ormskirk Prince's trust team who have just completed their 12-week training course.

Visitors flock to last weekend's Green Fayre at Up Holland's Beacon Country Park

Green Fayre wows the crowds at Beacon Park

THE crowds descended on Beacon Country Park in Up Holland on Saturday and Sunday, July 22 and 23 when the ever-popular Green Fayre reurned to the borough.

The free attraction had a range of attractions on offer to the hundreds of visitors.

The show was centred on working woodlands and craft areas where exhibitors and traders showcased a wide range of traditional crafts and techniques, working natural materials into tools and objects used in everyday life.

AUTHENTIC

Displays included chainsaw carving, willow weaving, basket making, wheelwrighting, sawmilling, pole-lathe turning and many more.

Meanwhile the shows arena was full of unmissable entertainment. The Cavalry of Heroes, Cheshire Falconry and the Wirral Viking group, known as Wirhalh Skip Felagr, wowed the crowds with displays of jousting, stunt riding, birds of prey and battle re-enactments.

The Retired Greyhound Trust also ran a charity dog show on both afternoons.

As well as the arena displays there were static owl and birds of prey displays, an extensive petting farm and donkey rides, allowing people to get up close and find out more about a variety of different animals.

Visitors could also take a step back in time by walking through the Viking encampment. Here they could experience the sights, smells and sounds of Viking life in the show's authentic tented village and find out more by talking to the villagers.

The folk marquee was also a popular attraction with a range of local acts providing music for people to enjoy.

And there was a wide range of fun activities including a climbing wall, caving unit, archery, air-rifle shooting, bushcraft/survival skills, bouncy castles, trampolines and a small traditional funfair.

LEFT: Always a Green Fayre favourite - Wirral Vikings stage one of their fearsome fights.

BELOW: Up Holland Blacksmith Jake with one of his creations at last weekend's Green Fayre at Beacon Country Park

Beth Crawshaw with some of her wild flower designs and displays at last weekend's Green Fayre

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Being a part of the trust's reader panel is a great opportunity to get involved in improving the Lancashire community, helping others and being involved in an important aspect of the trust's care.

David Keddie, stakeholder engagement manager at the trust, said: "It is extremely important that the content we print is understandable, clear and concise so that our messages are not lost.

"Joining our reader panel provides an invaluable perspective and will ensure that the information we provide to people who use services, their carers and family regarding the services and care we provide will be the best it can be to help aid recovery.

Valuable

"Whether you currently use services or you have in the past, if you have clinical or editorial experience or you are simply interested in ensuring high quality care, your insight would be extremely valuable in offering advice on the information the trust is producing."

Lancashire Care provides health and wellbeing services across the county including sexual health, respiratory, health improvement, mental health, memory assessment, eating disorder as well as offender healthcare.

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Alan receives his PhD at 72 to prove you're never too old to learn!

Report by **Tom Martin**

A 72-year-old pensioner believes he could be the oldest person to ever graduate with a PhD from Edge Hill University!

Alan Corkish, who worked as a psychologist at Aintree University Hospital before he retired last year, is also a keen writer. His PhD thesis was on 'working class culture, politics and attitudes in British twentieth century novels', which he passed and is due to graduate this summer.

After finding out he will get his PhD, he was told he was the oldest person to ever receive one from the Ormskirk-based university.

Alan, who was born in the Isle of Man but has lived in Bootle for the last 35 years, said: "It seems like only yesterday that I was laying bricks or shovelling coal into the furnace of the SS Ben Maye where I worked as a stoker, but that's understandable as my PhD stems from my working class roots.

Alan with his thesis

"I owe a great deal to Liverpool, it's my adopted city and I never forget that they helped me get my foot on the education ladder. I feel sorry for kids today who struggle to make ends meet when they leave university with huge debts and that's why I support the Labour Party in its promise to do away with crippling university fees.

"I retired quite early following serious health problems and have tried to give something back to this generous and wonderful city by doing voluntary work.

"I worked for six years as an advisor for the Citizens Advice Bureau then I re-trained and did an MSc in psychology in 2011 so that I could work at Fazakerley Hospital, again as a volunteer.

"I worked there for eight years and during that time I was also elected as a governor for a three-year period.

"There is no higher award than a PhD so as I'm used to reading and researching. I write short stories and poetry and I edit books for others. I have several books of poetry and a commentary on bipolar disorder still in print and have edited no less than 300 books for poets worldwide.

"Now I have just passed my PhD at the age of 72 and my department at Edge Hill University say I am the oldest person ever to graduate for the award!"

Society's fair fundraiser

MEMBERS of the Rufford Village Society committee held a summer fair to raise funds.

Chair, Sandra Gregory and members staged the event, featuring an ornaments sale, Pimms, homemade cake and raffle, at the Church Hall, Church Lane, Rufford on Saturday, July 15 in aid of the village Christmas lights and an ongoing project to maintain Rufford railway station.

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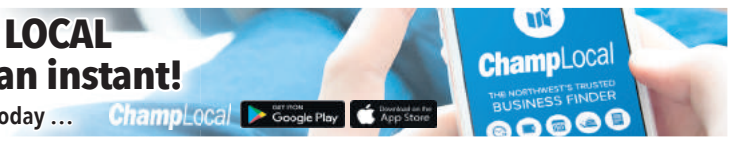

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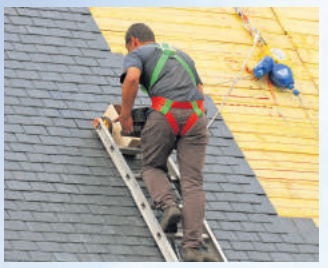

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Martin Mere news

ADVERTISING FEATURE

WWT Martin Mere Wetland Centre has launched a Junior Photography Competition.

The competition is part of Dusty's Wildlife Rangers a summer of fun ranger activities and is aiming to showcase the best wildlife on display at the centre throughout the summer months.

The competition is open for children under the age of 16. As well as being entered to win great prizes, all pictures entered will be on display for everyone to see in our exhibition hall from **23 September to the end of October Half Term.**

To enter the competition, visit the centre over the summer and collect your **FREE** log book. The log book contains all the details how to enter via Flickr group: **"Martin Mere Wildlife Rangers Photography Competition".** All photographic entries must have been taken at WWT Martin Mere from:**21 July 2017 – 3 September 2017.**

Centre Manager, Nick Brooks, said: "This competition is a great way of getting kids to come along to the centre, spend time watching the wildlife and become enthusiastic about wildlife photography. The last competition we did was back in 2015 and this picture is of the winning entry in the junior category. A great photograph and I am really looking forward to seeing the entries that come in and helping to judge them in September."

Closing date for the competition is the 3 September 2017 and the winners will be informed by 15 September.

In addition there are a number of activities to take part in over the summer – play against us in a game of GIANT Wetland Top Trumps; listen to the new white stork talk and feed at 2pm; join a tribe, make a headdress and tracks animals; go pond exploring, canoeing and much more.

Nick continues: "you collect stickers by doing each of the activities and if you collect more than 6 you can receive your Super Wildlife Ranger badge at our daily award ceremony at 3.30pm.

Martin Mere is open every day (except Christmas Day) from 9.30am to 6pm during summer months (and until 4.30pm during the winter) and parking is free of charge. Situated off the A59, it is signposted from the M61, M58 and M6. The Centre is also accessible via the Southport to Manchester and the Liverpool to Preston line by train from Burscough Rail Stations. Visit the web site **www.wwt.org.uk/martinmere** to find out what's on all year round at Martin Mere and the other eight WWT Wetland Centres.

Visit the web site www.wwt.org.uk/martinmere to find out what's on the reserve at the moment as well as all the upcoming events

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Bally's life celebrated

TO celebrate the life of Alan Ball - the stage-play Ball of Fire will be showing this summer.

Ex-Everton player and radio Merseyside presenter Ronny Goodlass will be conducting a post-show talk about the life and times of Alan Ball with various Everton legends.

It will be at The Atkinson this Saturday (July 29) and the Epstein Theatre in Liverpool on Friday, August 4.

Alan Ball was a remarkable character who tragically died in April 2007 aged just 61.

If people were not lucky enough to see Ball play; if they never had the chance to hear him deliver an inspirational After Dinner speech; if they think they understand the legend, but instinctively want to know more, then book a seat at the Atkinson. This compelling life story aims to make the hairs on the back of people's neck stand on end.

This play enhances the legend of Everton's 'Holy Trinity' and brings back charismatic memories of Messrs Ball, Harvey and Kendall.

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Bands lined up for free Summer Music Festival

A VARIETY of bands are all part of the line up for the free Summer Music Festival in Coronation Park, Ormskirk.

Groups playing music ranging from Pop and Merseybeat to Blues and Two Tone will be performing at the bandstand on Saturday afternoons, while local brass bands take centre stage on Sundays. All concerts are free and take place between 2pm and 4pm. Limited seating will be available to enable people to sit down, relax and enjoy the music.

Councillor Yvonne Gagen, West Lancashire Borough Council cabinet member for leisure said: "Listening to live music is a great way to spend a summer afternoon, particularly when you can do it in lovely surroundings like Coronation Park, so come along and enjoy the free concerts."

The Saturday line up of bands is as follows:

- July 29 : Wayne Carrick Band (pop, rock and blues covers band)
- August 5 : Searching (Merseybeat sound from the 60s)
- August 12 : Ukes At The Wharf (local ukulele band)
- August 19 : The Extras (British rhythm and blues)
- August 26 : George's Big Shed (straight from Shedbeat Studios, rock, pop and blues originals from the power trio).

The confirmed Sunday line up is as follows:

Councillor Yvonne Gagen

- July 30 : Flixton Brass Band
- August 6 : Greenalls Band
- August 13 : Skelmersdale Prize Band
- August 20 : Trinity Girls Brass Band

Separate arrangements are being made for musical entertainment for Sunday August 27, the day of the Ormskirk MotorFest. More details will be announced soon.

In the event of inclement weather check with the Park Ranger on 01695 570258 to ensure that the bands are still playing.

Spend a night at the movies with singer

TO celebrate the release of his fifth studio album Saturday Night at the Movies, Joe McElderry (shown left) visits Southport theatre on Thursday, August 3 as part of his nationwide tour, Saturday Night at the Movies Live, with songs from his new album and many more.

Joe will be joined on stage by special guests, The X Factor's Sam Callahan and Any Dream Will Do runners up Keith Jack and Ben James-Ellis, who have all featured in the musical phenomenon of Bill Kenwright's production of Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor® Dreamcoat.

The South Shields-born singer rose to prominence as winner of the sixth series of The X Factor, in 2009. He was also crowned winner of Popstar to Operastar in 2011, demonstrating his vocal versatility. Joe's performances in the title role of Joseph have been met with five star reviews and standing ovations up and down the country, which led to a new soundtrack recording released in February 2017. He also played the lead role in rock opera The Who's Tommy at Blackpool Opera House in 2015.

Saturday Night At The Movies Live is a chance for him to perform all his favourite songs from stage and screen, including the iconic songs Daydream Believer, Love is All Around and I'm into Something Good, as well as brand new tracks like the hit new single Gloria.

The event starts at 7.30pm. For more information or to book tickets call 0844 871 3021 or visit www.atgtickets.com/southport.

Cinema returns

THE film version of Hairspray is to be shown this Friday (July 28) within the Kings Gardens in Southport.

The film is to be shown at dusk, however earlier arrival is advised in order to guarantee a space.

Donations of £2 are being asked for.

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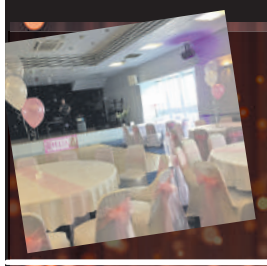

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Fri 15 Dec	Rod Stewart	Elvis	£79.95

*3 hours each evening. Selected draught beers, lagers, house wine, house spirits & soft drinks

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Scarborough 99p BAR*
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2 NTS	Friday Tribute	Saturday Tribute	
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Fri 24 Nov	Lionel Richie	Diana Ross	£85
Fri 1 Dec	Elton John	Rod Stewart	£85
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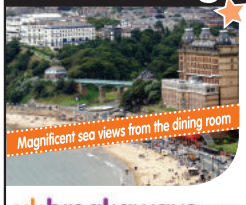

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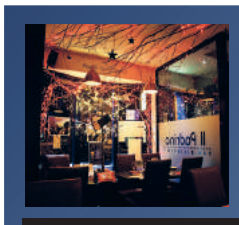

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PORCELAIN DOLLS assorted, mainly Alberon and Leonardo, excellent condition, from £5 each 07774 714191

HOBBIES

CARP FISHING rod, 2 piece, carbon, 11' shakespeare, in rod/reel zipped sleeve, with reel, rig case with asssorted rigs, 2 bags boilies, electronic bite alarm with bobbin and bankstick lot £30 tel Southport 07809255966

YAMAHA GUITAR Electro acoustic, CPX900 Compass series, sun burst on board turner, excellent low action, new string and gig bag £350 01695 722255

GIBSON PICKUP Retail boxed genuine 490T double black pickup. Genuine USA, full length armoured cable, excellent condition £100 01704831977

PATCHWORK QUILTING fabrics. Leading Brands £6 per metre various colours All new and off bolts. Maghull 07801 493946

AIR PUMPS 2 pumps, 1 hand piston, the other foot pump for blowing air beds kids pools, never used £3 01695 728281

DRUM KIT for children, five pieces, stands, pedals, cymbals, sticks plus stool £49.99. Call Mark on 01695 731303

1960'S TV Teleton 25v + 12v, portable, model TX12BS, comes with instruction manual £20 01704 880806

CONWAY CAMERA Synchronised model A29947, comes with original case £15 01704 880806

ELECTRIC SINGER Sewing machine in teak cabinet, in good working order including assorted bobbins £99 01704 873001

COLLECT IT Magazine collection, 42 issues from period 1998 to 2003, mint condition £15 01704 540119

ACOUSTIC GUITAR Full size Spanish type acoustic, used condition, nice tone perfect for beginner £45 01704831977

CARAVAN CABLE £15 01704 544603

HOME ENTERTAINMENT

BUSH 20 inch slim line television build in dvd player black ideal for bedroom caravan etc immaculate bargain £50 01515319425/07773242918

COLOUR TV 22" bush television, freeview, excellent picture, remote, instruction book, complete with wall bracket etc. £30 01695 422674

VINYL ALBUMS Country 'n Western-Guy Mitchell, Larry Gatlin, Dottie West, Charley Pride etc etc. In perfect condition. £1 each 07855222552/07821417560

CAMBRIDGE AUDIO DVD/CD PLAYER, excellent condition, remote control, plays all region dvds, rewrites, paid £90, bargain £20 07980 162415

3 SOLID Wood Chest of Drawers and 1 Tallboy in White Oak. All in excellent condition - £200 - Will sell separately 07989677525

19" WIDESCREEN LCD, Logic TV £50 01695 356512

40" WIDESCREEN Samsung TV £100 01695 356512

HOUSE AND HOME

3FT BED with as new mattress. Padded mattress topper. Upholstered headboard. Duvet & Bedding. Excellent condition. £80 Churchtown. 01704 809691

HOUSE AND HOME

3 SEATER GARDEN SWING Cushions and canopy included. Buyer Collects. £75 o.n.o 0151 5200888

CANE FURNITURE 2 seater and 2 chairs, hardly used, cream with floral, £350 ono 07774 714191

LAZYBOY RECLINER Chocolate Brown. Buyer Collects. £90 o.n.o. 01695 623874

KENWOOD MIXER 900 range. With tools. £30 01704 227855

BEWARE OF THE CAT Amusing plaque measuring 7 x 2 1/4 inches. Looks fantastic over the cat flap. Keep burglars (and very small children) away. Two screw fixing (supplied) £8 01704 546978

CEILING LAMP SHADES Two good quality shades both from BHS, one Cream with scolloped edge, one Wedgwood Blue in colour again with scolloped edge. Absolute Bargain, will separate. £10 07434841029

HOUSE AND HOME

BEIGE LOUNGE CURTAINS (66"x66") Self-colour but with a classic design embroidered within material. Made by Montgomery Interiors at Debenhams. Cost £400 when new. £150 ono 07821417560/07855222552

FRIDGE FREEZER Hotpoint Iced Diamond, freezer (top) 62litres, fridge (bottom) 164 litres. 135cm high, 55cm wide, 60cm deep. Good condition. £75ono Southport 01704 544948

DINING TABLE Extending rosewood veneer, 1960s, 77cm wide, 107cm long, plus 46cm extension (folds in). Good condition, but used. £40 ono. Southport 01704 544948

DINING TABLE McIntosh drop-leaf table, 3ft x 9in or 5ft fully opened plus two chairs. Teak coloured, £50 ono 01704822339 After 6pm

FOREST GREEN leather two and three seater sofas, dark wood trim, solid construction and quality leather vgc £200 01704 540504

LARGE MIRROR 3'x2' dull gold frame also matching 8 aperture photo frame 23"x19". Perfect condition, contemporary look. £20pair 01704809915

RUG 5X3 100% wool, brand new, camal shade stokers price over £200 my price £89. Bargain Red Velvet double headboard VGC £24 07594 604523

HOUSE AND HOME

DVD SELECTION All ages, played once, ideal for markets, £1 each, comes free videos including the simpsons. 0151 9204835

SMALL WASHBASIN White Twfords wall mounted basin (45w 38d) with gold finish classic taps and waste. Excellent condition £25 01772816637

PYREX MICROWAVE casserole/browning dish (22cmx22cm) - white ceramic/glass lid. Used only once. Bargain at £5 07821417560/07855222552

OIL PAINTING (13.5"x11.5") of country cottage with waterwheel on riverbank. In mahogany frame/gold gilt edging. VGC. £5 07855222552/07821417560

RECLINER CHAIR Electric as new bought June 2017 Excellent condition cost £900 will accept £500 buyer collects 01704877195

BRABANTIA IRONING table and Philips Steam Generator Iron. Both in excellent condition. Maghull £45 0151 5272091

TALL BOOKCASE 550 x 390 x 260mm, pine effect, 5 shelves with 1 drawer. £15 01704822339 after 6pm

KITCHEN TABLE Solid pine with 4 matching chairs £100 ono Birkdale 01704-568606 or 07850-935406

COFFEE TABLE Large well built heavy black & gold oblong coffee table with rattan inlays £35 01704 560179

HOUSE AND HOME

FIRESIDE CHAIR Winged fireside chair with green upholstery and medium oak coloured arms £15 01695 423252

BUREAU writing Bureau old but in good condition 2 tier top leaded, bottom section 3 drawers £40 01695 728281

GARMENT STEAMER Rowenta vertical steamer, excellent condition, used 4 times. £55 01695 228545

OLD TREADLE sewing machine collectors item for sale at just £45 ono. Upright Calor gas heater £20 ono. 0151 9200342

IKEA Dining table and four chairs black ash with chrome legs, 135cm by 85cm, excellent condition, £80 07842 280510

MISC

COPING STONES 7 stones. 36inches long, 6wide, 2 high at sides, 3high at apex. Heavy. Reclaimed from 1950s house. Suit professional builder. Good condition. £18. 07890036593 Maghull

WOODEN DIRECTOR TYPE GARDEN CHAIR In nice condition, wooden arms and frame with canvas back and seat. Very strong and folds away to store. Ideal for garden patio or caravanning. £10 07434841029

PITCHPINE BEAM Large, 12" tall, 8" wide 13ft10", long plus 2 decorative supports if needed very good condition, aged look £120 07523 326472

IPHONE4 32GB Excellent condition full working order, unlocked to any network, original box, cable and charger, case £95 01704831977

UPRIGHT bagless vacuum cleaner, dyson, very strong suction, can deliver £35 Southport 214498

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MOTORING

SKODA YETI (2014) ACCESSORIES... Dog guard, space saver spare wheel, pair of new wiper blades, £100 the lot 07774 225823

GLASS CARRYING Rack for side of Transit Connect, Like new, purchased for £400, selling for £100 07754 383614

TOMTOM GO 710,SAT NAV, NEW Battery, all accessories, boxed, 4inch screen, call for details, bargain £55 07980 162415

PETS

PUPPY PLAYPEN Cast iron 35.5x23.5x25" only used twice, very good condition, cost £45 new, selling for £20 01695 721448

DOG BED (medium) padded material, raised sides, removable base for washing, buyer collects £20 01704 539651

SPORTS EQUIPMENT

SMART WONDER Core full body workout machine, brand new, includes DVD full instructions as seen on TV advert £40 07502 190753

TABLE TENNIS TABLE Kettler, very good condition £50 Birkdale 01704-568606 or 07850-935406

TAYLOR MADE driver R580xd 9.5 loft reg flex bargain £25 01515319425/07773242918

TOYS AND GAMES

MEERKAT TOY alexander as 'BATMAN', limited addition from compare the market, new, boxed with tags and adoption certificate £25 tel southport 07809255966

PLASTIC BALLS for ball pool, 129 of assorted colours £4 ono Birkdale 01704-568606 or 07850-935406

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Full or Part time available for day and/or night shifts to work as part of a close team,supported by Manager and Senior Clinical Lead Nurse.Rates of pay between £14.00 and £15.50 per hour, with an additional pay review scheduled for October 2017

HEALTH CARE ASSISTANTS

Full and/or Part time available for day/night shifts at £7.60 per hour.

For an application form or informal discussion, please contact: Linda Burrows (Manager) on 01695 424344 or E-Mail your details to lindaburrows@btconnect.com

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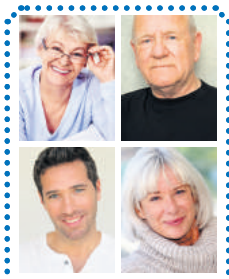

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Queenscourt

Queenscourt Hospice, a local charity providing support for people of Southport, Formby and West Lancashire. Our philosophy of care is 'life is for living' and that quality of life is paramount for those whose life may be shorter than otherwise expected.

COOK

Permanent and Bank positions available • Various hours available across a 7 day rota £14,873 - £18,131 (dependant on experience)

We are very proud of our catering team who provide an excellent service to our 10 bed in-patient unit and day patients and we are currently looking to increase our staffing levels.

Our aim is to always provide good but imaginative home cooked food that tempts the palate of our patients and meets their particular needs. We are looking for someone special to join our team who possesses the right personal qualities, good communication skills together with the required cooking skills. Possession of the Basic Food Hygiene Certificate is essential.

If you would like to discuss the above posts in more detail, please contact Laura Webster, Clinical Services Manager on 01704 544645.

Closing Date for receipt of applications is 5pm, Wednesday 2nd August 2017

Application forms and job descriptions can be obtained from our vacancies section on our website, www.queenscourt.org.uk/jobs or by contacting Sue Lovelock at Queenscourt Hospice, Town lane, Southport, PR8 6RE Tel: 01704 517926.

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VACANCY

Due to expansion we require a fully experienced

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to work for our well established Southport based Company.
Competitive rates of pay.
References are required.

Please contact: **MD Joinery**
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or email **sales@mdjoinery.co.uk**

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to work for our well established Southport based Company.
Competitive rates of pay.
Driving Licence essential

Please contact: **MD Joinery**
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Tel: 01704 229471

Following our continued expansion we have vacancies for

Top Flight Barbers

Applicants should be enthusiastic, hard working, possess good client care skills and a willingness to fit into an Award Winning environment. A minimum of 3 years practical experience is required and the applicant should be qualified to level 3.

We also have APPRENTICESHIP VACANCIES for Entry Level

Level 2 qualified applicants may also be considered for a position with a view to advancing their skills through our training program.

Please send your CV by post or e-mail to:
topcutter@themasterbarber.co.uk

The Company of Master Barbers Ltd, 315 -317 Lord Street, Wayfarers Arcade, Southport PR8 1NH • 01704 807176

ACCESS community services

We are looking for an enthusiastic, flexible and reliable person to join our friendly and professional team.
We are recruiting for a

TEAM LEADER

to lead a staff team within a supported tenancy for adults with learning disabilities in **Skelmersdale.**
*NVQ3 and full driving licence essential

This post is subject to an enhanced DBS.

Telephone: 01704 541133
for more information or download an application form
www.accesscommunityservices.co.uk

Closing date for applications: **7th August 2017**

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champnews.com/cash

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Due to an increase in work Phoenix Cabs have vacancies for:
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Queenscourt

Queenscourt Hospice, a local charity providing support for people of Southport, Formby and West Lancashire. Our philosophy of care is 'life is for living' and that quality of life is paramount for those whose life may be shorter than otherwise expected.

DATA INPUT CLERK

20 hours per week over any days, evenings or weekends to suit
12 Month Fixed Term Contract • £14,873 - £18,131

We are looking to recruit an experienced data handler who has a genuine interest in collecting accurate information. You must have previous experience of inputting data into databases with excellent accuracy and attention to detail whilst meeting deadlines for data submission.
Ideally the successful candidate will have proven experience in a similar role and in a healthcare setting as you will be working with medical terminology although we may consider experience from other settings. You will have excellent IT skills as well as an IT qualification such as ECDL (level 2) or equivalent and have advanced key board skills with accuracy.

PALLIATIVE CARE AND TRANSFORM CO-ORDINATOR

30 hours per week as part of a 7 day rota
12 month Fixed Term • £19,602 - £22,909

The post holder will be part of a multi-disciplinary team assisting in co-ordinating the work of our community teams – Palliative Care Team and Transform Team. The main duties include a wide range of administrative and secretarial tasks including dealing with difficult conversations, written and verbal correspondence with patients, relatives and health professionals. The post holder will be predominately based at Queenscourt Hospice with some work across Southport and Ormskirk Hospitals and within the Queenscourt community catchment area. You will require a driving licence and have access to a car.
The successful candidate will have experience of working in a healthcare setting in a similar administrative role, experience of minute taking including the use of medical terminology and experience of liaising with healthcare professionals, patients and their families.

Closing date for receipt of applications: Wednesday 2nd August 2017
Interviews to be held week commencing 14th August 2017

INTERESTED? We offer:
- Competitive salaries
- Opportunities for training and development
- Working in a modern, bright and welcoming environment
- Supportive management structure
- Subsidised staff meals
- Free parking
- Transferable NHS pension for those eligible

If you would like to discuss either of the vacancies in more detail, please contact Helen Birch, Clinical Services Director on 01704 517925.

Application forms and job description can be obtained from our vacancies section on our website at www.queenscourt.org.uk/jobs or by contacting Sue Lovelock at Queenscourt Hospice, Town Lane, Southport, PR8 6RE Tel: 01704 517926

New directions
Supporting the most vulnerable

DO YOU HAVE EXPERIENCE CARING FOR THE ELDERLY OR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES?

We currently have vacancies in the SOUTHPORT area for:

Advanced Care Workers - £8.69 p/h & Care Worker - £7.76 p/h
Full time roles supporting people with disabilities from our newly refurbished Hub. Monday to Friday only. To be an Advanced Care Worker you must have experience of working with this client group (including those with complex needs) and hold a Level 2 Diploma in Health & Social Care or equivalent. Care Workers must only have suitable experience.

Care Workers - £7.60 p/h
Temporary until 31 March 2018 this role is based in a 24/7 service providing intermediate, respite and day care to older people. Shift work to cover daytime, evening and weekends. Diploma in Health & Social Care Level 2 advantageous.

Reablement Workers - £7.76-£7.93 p/h
Working in Southport out in the community and surrounding areas, we require suitably experienced individuals to work with people to develop or regain their life skills and confidence following a stay in hospital or illness. 25 hour contract. Full training provided, paid travel time, pension, paid training and induction programme plus help to gain a recognised professional qualification and develop your career within social care. Day, evening and weekend shifts so must be flexible. Driver with access to own vehicle is essential.

All positions require enhanced DBS disclosure.
For an application form, please visit www.ndirections.co.uk or contact: 01704 829515

Announcements

CONGRATULATIONS

ALASTAIR CARLYLE-NEVE

Congratulations on graduating from LJMU in Mechanical Engineering.

We are all so proud of you.

July 2017

Lots of love from Mum, Dad, Grandma, Eve, Miles, Martha and all of your family and friends xx

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

ABRAM RONNIE

The family of the late Mr Ronnie Abram wish to express their sincere thanks to all relatives, friends and neighbours, for their very kind thoughts of sympathy, cards and donations for St. Stephen's Church Banks, received in their recent sad loss. Special thanks to all at the Scarisbrick Unit for all their care and support over the years, and the district and palliative care nurses for their every care and attention. Grateful thanks to Cannon Les Thomas and Cannon Philip Green for their kind ministrations.
Also to Michael and Michelle of M. Rushton Funeral Directors for their help and dignified funeral arrangements but also for the exceptional care and kindness shown to us and for being there every time we needed them.

MASON DEREK

Agnes and family would like to thank all relatives, friends and neighbours for their kind messages of sympathy and donations received for The North West Air Ambulance, also to Mandy Phillips for the lovely service. Special thanks to the Doctors and Nurses of ward 14B of Southport Hospital for the wonderful care of Derek and to Skelmersdale Funeral Service for their support and dignified Funeral arrangements.

DEATHS

NEWLAND JANET

Janet passed away peacefully in hospital on Tuesday 18th July aged 73 years and of Ormskirk

Dearly loved Wife of David, loving Mum and Mother-In-Law of Andrew and Jane, Susan and Richard, Richard and Claire, and much loved Grandmother of Thomas, Jack, Stephanie, Katie, Ted, Charlotte, Christopher and Elizabeth. Janet will be sadly missed by all her family and many friends.
Funeral service to be held at Ormskirk Parish Church on Tuesday 1st August at 2pm. Family flowers only please. Donations if desired in Janet's memory will be gratefully received for Clatterbridge Hospital and Queenscourt Hospice. Further enquiries to Newland and Wilkinson Independent Funeral Directors, 311 Hesketh Lane, Tarleton, PR4 6RJ. Tel 01772 811165

To book your **FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENTS** call 01704 392 392
adverts.champnews.com

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

CAUNCE THOMAS

Margaret and family would like to express their sincere thanks to all family, friends and neighbours for their kindness, sympathy, cards and flowers received during their recent sad loss and attendance at Tom's funeral. Special thanks to the palliative care team and district nurses at Hants Lane, Ormskirk for their care. Thanks also to Rev. Heaney for her kind ministrations and to Melanie at H Hardman & Co Funeral Directors for their dignified funeral arrangements.

DEATHS

TRAFFORD JOAN

Sadly Passed Away Peacefully at home 19 July 2017

Dearly loved mother of Denise, Elaine (deceased) and Pam. Nana to Lisa, Stephen, Ben, Sam, Adele, Kate and Michael and Little Nana to Sofia, Andreas, Marios, William, Millie, Elouise, Harriet, Dylan, Marley and Sophie.
God saw you getting weary, A cure was not to be, He put his arms around you and whispered "Come to Me".
The family would like to thank Queens Court Hospice, District Nurses and MLS Funeral Directors for their care and support during this very sad time.
Good Night. God Bless Mum.

SPEERS NORMAN LESLIE (LOU)

24th July 2017
Passed away in hospital Aged 93 Years

Lou will be sadly missed by family and friends. Funeral service to take place at West Lancashire Crematorium, Burscough on Thursday 27th July at 1:45pm. Family flowers only please, donations if desired to the British Heart Foundation. Further enquiries to Newland and Wilkinson Independent Funeral Directors, 311 Hesketh Lane, Tarleton, PR4 6RJ. Telephone 01772 811165

HENNESSEY JOSEPH ANTHONY

14th July 2017
Peacefully aged 63 years

Loving and devoted Husband of Deirdre, caring and proud Father of Siobhan, Christopher, Sophie and Sarah, a dear Father in law to Fred and adoring Grandad of Jack. Loved while with us here and for all eternity. All enquiries to Melanie Hardman at H Hardman & Co., Independent Family Funeral Directors of Skelmersdale, Ormskirk & Scarisbrick. Tel:- 01695 722122/720012.

DEATHS

CROWLEY NEIL
13th July 2017
Aged 49 years

If flowers grow in heaven Lord, please pick a bunch for us, place them in our Neil's arms, and tell them they're from us. And when he turns to smile, place a kiss upon his cheek, and hold him for a while, because remembering is easy, we do that every day, but there is an ache in our hearts, that will never go away.
Lyn, Jonny, Kayleigh, Dayne, Matt, Nel, Aliyah and Warren
xxxxxxxx

There is no love like the love for a Brother, there is no love like the love from a Brother, a Brother is a friend, given by nature.
Love you so much
Lyn
xxx

CROWLEY NEIL ANTHONY

There is always a face before us,
A voice we would love to hear,
A smile we will always remember,
of a Brother we loved so dear,
Deep in our hearts lies a picture,
More precious than silver or gold
it's a picture of our Brother,
Whose memory will never grow old.

With Love from Colin, Johanna, Max and Faye
xxxx

DEATHS

CROWLEY NEIL
13th July 2017

We could write a thousand words,but they would never be enough to express our love.
We will never understand why you had to be taken frm us Neil.
You had a heart of Gold and we love you very much.
We will treasure our memories of you and carry them in our hearts.

Goodnight,Godbless sweetheart.

Sleep tight.

Ann,John and Mellissa and Natalia and Paolo

OWEN GRACE AGNES
Passed away suddenly on 20th July 2017
aged 89 years
of Aughton

Dearly loved Wife of the late Harry, much loved Mum of Katy and Sally, devoted Nana of Amy and Harry. Dear Mother-In-Law of Steve and Aunty to Linda, loved and missed by all her family and friends.
Funeral Service at St. Michaels Church, Aughton, on Tuesday 1st August 2017 at 11.15am, followed by committal at West Lancs Crematorium. Family flowers only by request, but donations if so desired. Donations and further enquiries please to Lisa Hunter, MLS Independent Funeral Directors, 20 Moss Delph Lane, Aughton.
Tele: 01695 424888

NORTON BRIAN ALBERT
18th July 2017
Aged 76 years
After a long brave battle with illness

Beloved Dad of Ian and Amanda, Father-In-Law of Carole and Dave, Grandad of Laura, Emma Jess, Amelia, Dean and Chris, Great-Grandad of Ethan, Brother of Barb, Ron and Colin, Brother-In-Law of Liz, Cousin of Carroll. Friend of Sylvia and Jeannie.
DEARLY LOVED AND SADLY MISSED
Funeral Service at St. Michael's Church Dalton at 1.30pm followed by West Lancs Crematorium, Burscough at 2.30pm Thursday 27th July. Family flowers only. Donations to go to Queenscourt Hospice, Southport. Further enquiries to Devonports Funeral Services. Tel: 01695 731199

Announcements

Births · Deaths · Marriages · Engagements · Congratulations · In Memorium · Anniversaries

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DEATHS

GRAY SAMUEL
2nd July 2017
Aged 74 years

Devoted Husband of the late Elaine. Best Dad in the world to Chris. Samuel will be greatly missed by all his family and friends. Service at Southport Crematorium on Wednesday 2nd August at 10:00am. Flowers welcome. Enquiries to Howard's Funeral Directors, 1-5 Roe Lane, Southport, PR9 9DR. Telephone: 01704 500086.

IN MEMORIAM

RIDING HELEN
In Memoriam
25th July 2013

Four years ago we lost you.
Although you're lost from sight you'll never be lost from our hearts.
Love and miss you always mum.
Love Jeff xxxx

A big piece of all of us left on that day.
Now our lives are just not the same.
We miss our Mum, Nana and friend.
Losing you is something we cannot mend.
In loving memory of my mum. I hope you're enjoying watching us all for many years to come.
Love from Robby, Amy, Joe and Eva
xxxx

RIDING HELEN
In Memoriam
25th July 2013

Four years have passed since you left us all.

We miss your smile.
We miss your laughter.
Most of all we miss you.

Good night, God bless Helen.

Love Robby xxxx

IN MEMORIAM

RIGBY JAMIE
27th July 2004
To our Forever Friend Jamie

Time slips by, life goes on, from our hearts, you're never gone.
We love and miss you and always will.
God Bless.
Your Forever Friends
Joan, Jimmy, Jay & Jo xxxx

RIGBY JAMIE (Our Jay)
27/07/2004

13 years today, you were taken away.
So many things, we didn't say.
A beautiful memory, dearer than gold, of a Son and Brother, who's worth can't be told.

We can see his face, when we close our eyes, his laughter echos, but our hearts cry, on the verge of a man, but only a boy, this tragedy happened, that has stolen our joy. We look to the heavens, asking God as we pray, how do we continue, without him (Our Jay)

Reunited with little mate Taz.

See you in heaven son. Broken Hearted Mum, Dad, Danielle, Liam, Stuart and family

xxxxxxx

Kisses and cuddles from Ava - Emily, Iyla - Beau, Poppy - Jai, Maggie - May

xxxxx

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PUBLIC NOTICES

Department for Transport

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990

The Secretary of State gives notice of an Order made under Section 247 of the above Act entitled "The Stopping up of Highways (North West) (No. 48) Order 2017" authorising the stopping up of two part-widths of Holly Close, comprising parts of its current turning head, at Ormskirk in the Borough of West Lancashire. This is to enable development as permitted by West Lancashire Borough Council under reference 2016/1291/WL3.

Copies of the Order may be obtained, free of charge, from the Secretary of State, National Transport Casework Team, Tyneside House, Skinnerburn Road, Newcastle Business Park, Newcastle upon Tyne NE4 7AR or nationalcasework@dft.gsi.gov.uk (quoting NATTRAN/NW/S247/2883) and may be inspected during normal opening hours at West Lancashire Borough Council (Property Services), 61 Westgate, Skelmersdale WN8 8LP.

Any person aggrieved by or desiring to question the validity of or any provision within the Order, on the grounds that it is not within the powers of the above Act or that any requirement or regulation made has not been complied with, may, within 6 weeks of 26 September 2017 apply to the High Court for the suspension or quashing of the Order or of any provision included.

S Zamenzadeh, Casework Manager

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PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR PLANNING PERMISSION
Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015
NOTICE UNDER ARTICLE 15 PUBLICATION FOR APPLICATIONS FOR PLANNING PERMISSION
PLANNING APPLICATION NO - LCC/2017/0060
PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT - RETROSPECTIVE APPLICATION FOR THE PROVISION OF A CONCRETE PANEL RETAINING STRUCTURE TO THE EARTH BUND ALONG THE NORTHERN BOUNDARY, THE ERECTION OF AN ENCLOSURE TO HOUSE A 300KW BIOMASS BOILER WITH A 5.8M HIGH EXHAUST STACK AND THE PROVISION OF AN ASSOCIATED FUEL SILO AND ASH BIN AT TOWER HOUSE, STOPGATE LANE, SIMONSWOOD

I give notice that Simonswood Properties Ltd is applying to the Lancashire County Council for the above development.

Members of the public may inspect copies of the application, plans and documents at Lancashire County Council, Development Management Group, County Hall, PO Box 100, Preston, PR1 0LD or at the Planning Department, West Lancashire Borough Council, Council Offices, 52 Derby Street, Ormskirk, during normal office hours until 16 August 2017.The application can also be viewed on the County Council's website **planningregister.lancashire.gov.uk**

Anyone who wishes to make representations about this application should write to the County Council by 16 August 2017 at the above address, via email DevCon@lancashire.gov.uk or via 'Have your Say' on the County Council's website.

Information regarding the decision will be available on the website within 5 working days of the decision. Details on how to speak at the Development Control Committee are also available on the web page

Andy Mullaney, Head of Service for Planning and Environment
On Behalf of Lancashire County Council
Date: 26 July 2017

www.lancashire.gov.uk
Lancashire County Council

West Lancashire Borough Council
Planning (Listed Buildings & Conservation Areas) Act 1990 Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015 - Article 15

APPLICATION(S) AFFECTING A CONSERVATION AREA / LISTED BUILDING

Application No: 2017/0706/FUL Change of use from A1 (shops) to A4 (drinking establishment). Alterations to the front elevation to include bi-folding doors and timber cladding. Outside seating area and associated works to the rear at Alpine Club Lodge, 17 - 21 Railway Road, Ormskirk.
Application No: 2017/0709/FUL Single storey rear extension. First floor extension to the front, side, and rear. Proposed front dormer and alterations to existing dormer windows. Removal of chimney. Internal alterations at 27 Granville Park, Aughton.
Application No: 2017/0715/FUL Construction of a detached timber garden building and the erection of tree house and associated play equipment constructed adjacent to existing trees at 44 Granville Park, Aughton.
Application No: 2017/0743/FUL First floor extension to the property comprising raising the eaves at 27 Lindley Drive, Parbold.
The applications are available for viewing on the Council's website www.westlancs.gov.uk/planning. Alternatively, the application can be viewed during normal office hours at 52 Derby Street, Ormskirk and at 1st Floor, The Concourse, Skelmersdale. If you wish to comment on the proposal you can do so via the Council's web site, by e.mail to plan.apps@westlancs.gov.uk or in writing to Development and Regeneration Services, 52 Derby Street, Ormskirk, but these must be received within 21 days of the date of this notice quoting the application no. Any comments made will be available for public inspection.
Applications for Minor Commercial and Householder Development
In the event that an appeal is made against a decision of the Council to refuse to grant planning permission for the proposed development, and that appeal then proceeds by way of the expedited procedure under the written representations procedure, any representations made to the Council about an application will be passed to the Secretary of State and there will be no opportunity to make further representations.

John R Harrison DipEnvP., MRTPI — Dated: 26th July 2017
Director of Development and Regeneration — PDNOT958

GOODS VEHICLE OPERATOR'S LICENCE

BRIAN FAIRCLOUGH of 12 Hesketh Green, Rufford, Lancashire, L40 1UN is applying for a licence to use Brick Kiln Farm, Brick Kiln Lane, Rufford, Lancashire, L40 1SY as an operating centre for 1 goods vehicle(s) and 0 trailers.

Owners or occupiers of land (including buildings) near the operating centre(s) who believe that their use or enjoyment of that land would be affected, should make written representations to the Traffic Commissioner at Hillcrest House, 386 Harehills Lane, Leeds, LS9 6NF, stating their reasons, within 21 days of this notice. Representors must at the same time send a copy of their representations to the applicant at the address given at the top of this notice. A Guide to Making Representations is available from the Traffic Commissioner's office.

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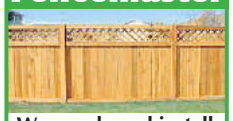

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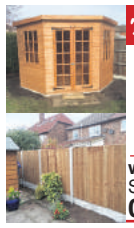

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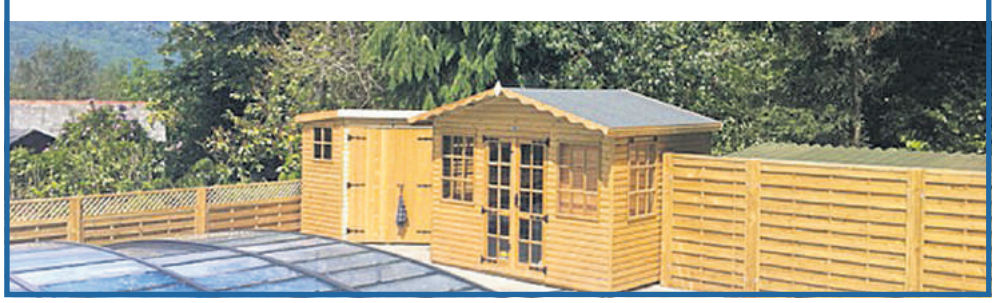

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It feels like Southport's population has halved since The Open contest

The new Mercedes X-Class could be the wheels of choice for the next Open

Life On Cars
DAVID SIMISTER
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IT FEELS like the population of Southport's halved over the last few days. Apparently all the people who've just vacated the resort were here for something called 'the golf' – and I don't mean the Volkswagen hatchback, either.

The one thing that did strike me during the North West's moment in the international sporting spotlight was that virtually everyone seemed to travel to the Royal Birkdale in either a series of commandeered Stagecoach double-deckers, or in a black Mercedes.

It felt like every other car was a black E-Class with tinted rear windows.The Benz blokes have obviously thrown a lot at The Open, which is why it surprised me enormously that it didn't bring along its latest model. It claims the X-Class is the first pick-up truck from a premium manufacturer, but that's not entirely the case.Firstly, the posh pick-up from a luxury carmaker isn't a new idea, because both Cadillac and Lincoln have already tried it (albeit with virtually no success, which is why they never sold them over here). Secondly, the trimmings might be Mercedes' finest but the bones most definitely aren't; the X-Class is essentially a Nissan Navara.

So I suspect all the building site operatives who actually buy pick-ups are probably going to stick with the cheaper Japanese original.

So who's going to buy the X-Class?Originally I'd suspected it'd be perfect for anyone who appears in or produces hip hop videos, but I can't imagine there are too many of those in Formby or Parbold (Straight Outta Crosby does have a nice ring to it, though). Nor is it going to appeal to the sort of managing director types who normally go for big, German offroaders, because the ML-Class already does it without relying on pick-up truck underpinnings.But – and this is why I think Mercedes missed a trick at The Open – it has plenty of potential as a golfer's chariot of choice. It has a sufficiently posh badge to mix it with the Jaguars and BMWs in the club car park, more than enough room inside to take four of your chums out for a quick round, and with it being a pick-up there's plenty of room out back for all the sets of clubs you'll ever need. Pack carefully and you could even bring your own golf buggy with you!

I can't wait for the golf to come back to Southport, because the resort is going to be rammed with X-Class Mercs.

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Cash Price £5,999 — NO DEPOSIT & £119 PER MONTH

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Volvo aims for a more upmarket section via small new off-roaders

VOLVO is preparing an assault on the more upmarket end of the market for small off-roaders – currently dominated by the likes of Audi's Q3 and BMW's X1.
The XC40 will slot beneath the larger XC60 and XC90 models, and is described by its maker as being more distinctive and fashion-conscious than the competition.
Volvo hasn't announced prices or specification details for the new model yet, but we can safely expect the first models to hit the showrooms towards the end of this year.

Join the fun at the MotorFest

The Ormskirk MotorFest takes place on August 27

THE organiser of the Ormskirk MotorFest is appealing to owners of the North West's finest vehicles to join in the fun at this year's event.
Aintree Circuit Club is looking for owners of classic cars and motorcycles to take part in the event's concours contest on Sunday, August 27.
Go to www.ormskirkmotorfest.com/concours-delegance to find out more about this year's event.

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14 KIA SPORTAGE 1.7 TD 3, polar white, full leather trim, panoramic sunroof, alloys, A/C 28, 000 miles only.... **great value at only £13,999**
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63 FORD FOCUS 1.6 TDCI ZETEC, burnished glow, A/C, Bluetooth, alloys, 18,000 miles only, £30 road tax.... **£8,999**
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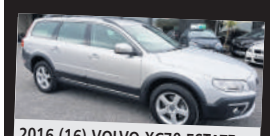
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Brand New Vauxhall Corsa
Energy 1.4 75PS 3dr
£2000 Scrappage Allowance

For just **£139** per month and **£139** Customer Deposit

Cash Price	£11,062.30	Optional Final Payment	£3,604
Deposit Allowance	£1,800	Interest Charges	£1,059.76
Scrappage Allowance	£2,000	Annual Mileage	5,000
Customer Deposit	£139	Total Amount Payable	£12,420.06
Amount of Credit	£9,123.30	**APR Representative**	5.4%
45 Monthly Payments	£139		

Brand New Vauxhall Insignia
1.5T ecoTec Design Grand Sport

For just **£249** per month and **£249** Customer Deposit

Cash Price	£16,560.95	Optional Final Payment	£6,509
Deposit Allowance	£0	Interest Charges	£1,900.05
Scrappage Allowance	£0	Annual Mileage	5,000
Customer Deposit	£249	Total Amount Payable	£18,461
Amount of Credit	£16,311.95	**APR Representative**	4.2%
47 Monthly Payments	£249		

Brand New Vauxhall Adam
1.2 Energised
£2000 Scrappage Allowance

For just **£159** per month and **£159** Customer Deposit

Cash Price	£12,240.19	Optional Final Payment	£4,183
Deposit Allowance	£1,600	Interest Charges	£1,220.87
Scrappage Allowance	£2,000	Annual Mileage	5,000
Customer Deposit	£159.98	Total Amount Payable	£13,461.06
Amount of Credit	£10,481.19	**APR Representative**	4.2%
47 Monthly Payments	£159.98		

Brand New Vauxhall Corsa
Limited Edition 1.4 75PS 3dr
£2000 Scrappage Allowance

For just **£179** per month and **£179** Customer Deposit

Cash Price	£13,289.54	Optional Final Payment	£4,139
Deposit Allowance	£1,800	Interest Charges	£1,287.52
Scrappage Allowance	£2,000	Annual Mileage	5,000
Customer Deposit	£179	Total Amount Payable	£14,875.06
Amount of Credit	£11,310.54	**APR Representative**	5.2%
45 Monthly Payments	£179.98		

Brand New Vauxhall Astra
1.0T 12V EcoFLEX SRi 5dr
£2000 Scrappage Allowance

For just **£219** per month and **£219** Customer Deposit

Cash Price	£16,873.07	Optional Final Payment	£6,087
Deposit Allowance	£2,000	Interest Charges	£1,725.93
Scrappage Allowance	£2,000	Annual Mileage	5,000
Customer Deposit	£219	Total Amount Payable	£18,599.00
Amount of Credit	£14,786	**APR Representative**	4.2%
47 Monthly Payments	£219		

Brand New Vauxhall Mokka X
1.4T Active
£2000 Scrappage Allowance

For just **£239** per month and **£239** Customer Deposit

Cash Price	£18,127.47	Optional Final Payment	£6,049
Deposit Allowance	£2,400	Interest Charges	£1,793.53
Scrappage Allowance	£2,000	Annual Mileage	5,000
Customer Deposit	£239	Total Amount Payable	£19,921.00
Amount of Credit	£15,488.47	**APR Representative**	4.2%
47 Monthly Payments	£239		

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††Scrappage terms and conditions: Traded-in car must have been registered in your name and address for at least 90 days. Selected models only. Offer is for new vehicles ordered and subsequently registered by 30th September 2017. Offer available at participating Retailers only. Terms, conditions and exclusions apply. On the road prices include number plates, delivery, Vehicle Excise Duty, first registration fee and VAT. Offers available on orders or registrations before 30th September 2017, subject to availability and change. Offers available to private individuals and small businesses 1-24 units (purchase only excluding B2B supported units). All other sales categories are excluded; cannot be used in conjunction with any other offer. Offers may not apply to all Retailer stocks. UK-supplied vehicles only. #Fuel consumption information is offi cial government environmental data, tested in accordance with the relevant EU directive. Official EU-regulated test data is provided for comparison purposes and actual performance will depend on driving style, road conditions and other non-technical factors. General Motors UK Limited t/a Vauxhall Motors reserves the right to change, amend or withdraw this offer at any point in time. Correct at time of going to press. All prices shown include a minimum part exchange allowance of £500.

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MUST END THIS WEEKEND

SUNDAY 30TH JULY

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CAR SWAP PRICE £5,495*

FIAT 500 1.2 S — 2013 REG

ORIGINALLY £7,000

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CAR SWAP PRICE £5,995*

TOYOTA AYGO X-PLAY VVT-i — 2015 REG

ORIGINALLY £9,000

SAVE £2,005

CAR SWAP PRICE £6,995*

VAUXHALL ADAM 1.2 JAM HATCH — 2014 REG

ORIGINALLY £8,295

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CAR SWAP PRICE £6,995*

NISSAN NOTE ACENTA PREMIUM — 2014 REG

ORIGINALLY £8,500

SAVE £1,005

CAR SWAP PRICE £7,495*

CITROEN C3 HDi 75 EDITION BLUE — 2016 REG

ORIGINALLY NEW £16,365

SAVE £7,370

CAR SWAP PRICE £8,995*

NISSAN JUKE ACENTA 1.5 DCi hatch — 2011 REG

ORIGINALLY £10,000

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KIA PROCEE'D 2 1.6D MT — 2015 REG

ORIGINALLY £15,995

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£219 PER MONTH — 2012 REG

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62 D-MAX UTAH, mineral grey, 50,000 miles .....£11,995+VAT
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62 JAGUAR XJ Premium Auto 47,000 miles FMDSH..... from £19,950

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64 TRANSIT Custom 125Psi, 31,001 miles.....£10,995+VAT
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09 BMW 1 SERIES 2.0 118D SE 2DR

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WAS £7,990
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13 FORD FIESTA 1.6 TITANIUM X TDCI 3DR

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12 VOLKSWAGEN POLO 1.2 BLUEMOTION TDI 5DR

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63 HYUNDAI i10 1.2 CLASSIC 5DR

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61 HYUNDAI i20 1.2 COMFORT 5DR

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• Black • 79,000 Miles • 2 Owners • Service history • Facelift model • Air con
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16 AUDI Q7 3.0 TDI QUATTRO S LINE 5DR AUTO, white, 4,000 miles, head up display, sat nav, 85ltr fuel tank, heated leather..... **£59,990 or from £324 a week**

15 VOLKSWAGEN GOLF 2.0 R 3DR, red, 14,000 miles, full service history, DAB radio, Bluetooth, MK 6, 1 owner, Cat D..... **£17,990**

15 VOLKSWAGEN GOLF 2.0 GTI 5DR, black, 57,551 miles, full VW service history, sat nav, 1 owner, day running lights, 2 keys..... **£17,490 or from £78 a week**

11 MERCEDES-BENZ E CLASS 3.0 E350 CDI BLUEEFFICIENCY SPORT 2DR AUTO, white, full history, nav, heated leather ..... **£12,990 or from £71 a week**

09 HYUNDAI i800 2.5 STYLE CRDI 5DR, white, 49,000 miles, service history, half leather, rear DVD player..... **£11,490 or from £63 a week**

10 VOLKSWAGEN TOUAREG 3.0 V6 SE TDI 5DR AUTO, silver, full service history, alloys, cruise control, climate control..... **£10,690 or from £59 a week**

63 VOLVO V60 2.0 D3 R-DESIGN 5DR, black, 79,000 miles, full service history, parking sensors, DAB digital radio..... **£9,990 or from £55 a week**

12 BMW 3 SERIES 2.0 320D SE 4DR, white, full main dealer history, 1 company owner, privacy glass, start stop, 19inc alloys at additional cost... **£8,990 or from £50 a week**

62 VAUXHALL ASTRA 2.0 GTC SRI CDTI S/S 3DR, black, 27,000 miles, full service history, 2 owners, aux with DAB..... **£7,990 or from £35 a week**

12 VAUXHALL INSIGNIA 2.0 SE NAV CDTI ECOFLEX 5DR, blue, 55,371 miles, full dealer history, half leather, alloys, sat nav..... **£6,990 or from £38 a week**

59 FORD KUGA 2.0 ZETEC TDCI 2WD, white, full service history, privacy glass, alloys, 2 keys..... **£6,990 or from £39 a week**

11 FORD MONDEO 2.0 TITANIUM TDCI 5DR, black, full service history, air con, Bluetooth, cruise control, start stop..... **£6,490 or from £36 a week**

61 BMW 1 SERIES 2.0 118D M SPORT 5DR, Le Mans blue, full service history, half leather, parking sensors, 1 former keeper..... **£6,490 or from £36 a week**

58 AUDI A4 1.8 TFSI S LINE 4DR, black, full heated black leather, 1 owner, alloys, sat nav, cambelt and water pump changed..... **£5,990 or from £33 a week**

62 RENAULT SCENIC 1.5 DYNAMIQUE TOMTOM DCI EDC 5DR AUTO, beige, 59,000 miles, FSH, half leather, nav..... **£5,990 or from £CALL a week**

08 VAUXHALL VIVARO 2.0 2700 CDTI SWB SPORTIVE, silver, full service history, air con, electric windows, new mode..... **£5,990 or from £33 a week**

10 MINI HATCH COOPER 1.6 COOPER D 3DR, blue, 59,000 miles, keyless start..... **£5,690 or from £32 a week**

62 RENAULT CLIO 1.1 DYNAMIQUE TOMTOM TCE 5DR, black, 25,000 miles, full history, sat nav, black alloys, 2 keys..... **£4,690 or from £22 a week**

08 VOLKSWAGEN EOS 2.0 TDI 2DR, silver, full service history, alloys, parking sensors, 6 speed, full glass roof..... **£3,990 or from £23 a week**

54 VOLKSWAGEN TRANSPORTER 1.9 T26 TDI SWB, blue, service history, electric windows, new 20" alloys at additional cost..... **£3,990 or from £CALL**

59 CITROEN C5 1.6 VTR PLUS HDI NAV 5DR, grey, full service history, sat nav, alloys, Bluetooth, 2 keys..... **£3,990 or from £23 a week £23 a week**

07 FIAT SCUDO 2.0 COMFORT LWB MULTIJET, grey, roof rack, central locking, cambelt changed, 3 keys..... **£3,990 or from £23 a week**

57 CITROEN RELAY 2.2 35 L3H2 120 LWB HR, white, service history, new model, side loading door, fully ply lined..... **£3,990 or from £CALL**

58 FORD FOCUS 2.0 CC3 2DR, bronze, 60,000 miles, service history, alloys, convertible, electric windows..... **£3,390 or from £19 a week**

08 FORD C-MAX 1.8 ZETEC 5DR, green, 63,000 miles, Bluetooth, alloys, privacy glass, 2 owners, facelift model..... **£3,390 or from £19 a week**

56 AUDI A4 2.0 TDI S LINE DPF 4DR, blue, lots of service history, alloys, dual climate, cruise control, px to clear..... **£2,490**

55 PEUGEOT 407 2.7 COUPE GT HDI 2DR AUTO, silver, service history, full leather, sat nav, £2,000 of factory fitted extras..... **£2,490 or from £16 a week**

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2015	(15)	FORD B-MAX ZETEC AUTOMATIC, in burnished glow, with A/C, e/pack, alloys, CD etc, ONLY SIX THOUSAND MILES	£9,995
2015	(15)	FORD NEW FIESTA 1.0 ZETEC, in moondust silver, with A/C, e/pack, HFS, CD etc, ONLY TWELVE THOUSAND MILES	£7,495
2014	(64)	RENAULT CAPTUR DYNAMIQUE, in cream and black, with A/C, sat nav, e/pack, alloys, ONLY FOUR THOUSAND MILES	£10,995
2014	(64)	TOYOTA AYGO X-PRESSION 5DR, in met blue, with A/C, pas, Bluetooth, e/pack, alloys etc, ONLY FIVE THOUSAND MILES	£7,995
2014	(14)	HYUNDAI IX35 CRDI DIESEL 4WD, in white, with sat nav, A/C, e/pack, alloys, CD etc, 20,000 miles	£13,995
2014	(14)	FORD B-MAX ZETEC, in moondust silver, with A/C, e/pack, alloys, CD etc, ONLY TWELVE THOUSAND MILES	£8,495
2014	(14)	VAUXHALL ADAM GLAM, in James Bond yellow/black, with style pack, A/C, aux, e/pack, alloys etc, ONLY SEVEN THOUSAND MILES	£8,495
2014	(14)	TOYOTA YARIS ICON PLUS 5DR, in met blue, with A/C, e/pack, alloys, CD etc, ONLY SEVEN THOUSAND MILES	£8,695
2014	(63)	NISSAN NEW NOTE ACENTA, in met red, with A/C, e/pack, alloys, CD etc, ONLY SEVEN THOUSAND MILES	£7,995
2014	(14)	FORD KA EDGE, in gold, with A/C, e/pack, ABS, CD etc, ONLY TWO THOUSAND MILES	£6,495
2014	(14)	NISSAN NEW NOTE ACENTA PREMIUM AUTOMATIC, in gun metal, with sat nav, Bluetooth, A/C, e/pack, alloys, CD etc, ONLY TEN THOUSAND MILES	£8,995
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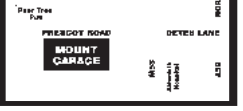

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Rain halts Burscough game as Skelmersdale hold out for draw

BURSCOUGH'S home match against Newton le Willows fell victim to the weather.

The hosts chose bat and thanks to Jon Stone (72), Chris Andrews (54) and Navdeep Aujla (53) were able to declare after 52 overs on 262-7, with Kieran Humphreys taking 3-73.

In reply, Newton had reached 105-3 when rain prevented any further play.

Skelmersdale just managed to hang on for a draw against Orrell Red Triangle.

Orrell scored 228-8 declared in 51.4 overs after opener Matthew Morgan top scored with 64.

Skelmersdale scored 135-9 in 47 overs in reply, Ben Maddocks top scored with 28 while Matthew Wright scored an unbeaten 22.

Fleetwood Hesketh were narrowly beaten by 18 runs at First Division leaders Highfield.

The hosts chose to bat and thanks to skipper James Taylor (72) and fellow opener Mike Gaskell were able to declare their innings after 51.4 overs on 221-7. Tommy Wareing 4-65 and Jack Wrigglesworth 3-61 taking the wickets.

In reply, Wrigglesworth (76) and Neil Rimmer (72) gave Fleetwood hope but nobody else apart from Wareing (21) was able to stick around as they were dismissed for 203, with Madduma Lakmal 6-55 and Sam Rotherham 3-44 the main destroyers with the ball.

Hightown St Mary's are now 72 points adrift at the foot of the table after a 92 home defeat by Wigan.

In the Second Division third placed Maghull had their home match against leaders Liverpool washed out by the rain.

The visitors asked to bat and dismissed for 150 with Cam Lawrenson claiming 6-34, whilst Tushar Mahambrey top scored with 44. The hosts were then 38-3 with skipper Paul Walters unbeaten on 25* when rain prevented anymore play.

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Ormskirk extend lead at top after crushing win over Ainsdale

AFTER a rain affected fixture programme Ormskirk managed to increase their lead at the top of the Liverpool & District Cricket Competition Premier Division to 73 points after a 208 run home win over relegation threatened Ainsdale, *writes Glenn Wallworth*.

The hosts were asked to bat and rattled up 249-5 declared in 46 overs, thanks in no small part to 90 from opener Michael Jones, 46 from fellow opener Andy Baybutt, 42 from Lancashire's Josh Bohannon and 40 from keeper Gary Knight.

In reply, no Ainsdale player reached double figures as they were demolished for just 42, with Bohannon taking 4-5 and Lancashire spinner Simon Kerrigan 3-0.

Southport & Birkdale went so close to recording their first win of the campaign, but eventually lost by a single wicket at New Brighton.

After electing to bat S&B were dismissed for 150, with Chris Brownlow (54), opener Charlie Byrne (29) and skipper Chris Firth scoring the bulk of the runs, whilst David While took 6-40 and Ashraf Nawab 3-41 with the ball.

In reply, it was left to last pair Louis C Botes (29*) and Jaxom Rose (9*) to take the hosts to victory from 141-9 to 151-9, leaving Firth 3-53, Brownlow 3-24 and team mates wondering if any luck is going to fall their way before the end of the season.

Formby climbed further clear of the relegation zone after a 45 run win at Leigh.

The visitors chose to bat and thanks to Sam Oldham (69), skipper Ian Cockbain (34) and Lancashire's Haseeb Hameed (29) declared on 190-6, with Hedley Molyneux taking 3-44.

In reply, the experienced pairing of Gary Keedy 5-31 and Ajmal Shahzad 3-77 helped dismiss the hosts for 145, with Matty McKiernan top scoring with 40.

Bootle's home match against second placed Northern was washed out by the rain, the visitors posted 179-9 declared up on the board, with Stephen Lucas top scoring with 54, whilst Chris Liptrot weighed in with 4-55 with the ball.

The hosts had then reached 38-0 when the heavens opened and play was abandoned for the day.

Teams face away trips as Linnets defend state of pitch after games cancelled

Report by **Neil Leatherbarrow**

BOTH Skelmersdale United and Burscough have their pre-season schedules back on track after a couple of hastily postponed matches.

Both teams are away on Saturday, July 29, with Skem at Runcorn Linnets at 3pm and Burscough at St Helens Town at 12.30pm.

Then on Tuesday, August 1 it is a pair of 7.45 kick offs. At home, Skelmersdale United play Bootle and Burscough entertain Vauxhall Motors.

Burscough recently had two games cancelled by opponents, Southport and Everton, after it was said that their Victoria Park pitch was unfit.

However, Burscough FC chiefs say this was not the case.

A spokesman said: "The clubs based their decisions on evidence that was drawn from a spurious Twitter account which was clearly not correct.

"We employed a local company to mow our pitch and they were assisted by a club official. The Twitter account showed just the club official with a small mower, ignoring the contractor with a commercial mower and roller."

The Champion also spoke to Malcolm Crosby, a volunteer who works on the Victoria Park ground.

He said: "The pitch was playable and the games could have gone ahead."

Skelmersdale saw their game at Enfield Town called off on Saturday, due to player shortages.

A Skelmersdale FC source told the Champion: "Manager Alan Rogers is still assembling his squad and has 16 players registered.

"He knew three players couldn't make the trip to North London because of the very early morning start and Saturday morning work commitments, but when he then got three players injured at Barnoldswick in midweek, it pus in an impossible situation."

Groundsman Malcolm Crosby at Burscough's ground

Skelmersdale's games this week are both interesting ones, as Runcorn Linnets and Bootle will have former Skem players in their ranks, and both teams are expected to be challenging for promotion from the North-West Counties League next season.

Burscough's season starts a week earlier than Skelmersdale's, with an FA Cup tie away to AFC Emley whose Welfare Ground is one many Southport supporters will remember fondly as it is the place where they won promotion to the Conference Premier in 1992.

The game is actually set for Sunday, August 6 with a 3pm kick off and a replay if necessary the following midweek.

Skelmersdale's season starts a week later Saturday, August 12 at Brighouse Town followed by a home match against Trafford on Tuesday, August 15.

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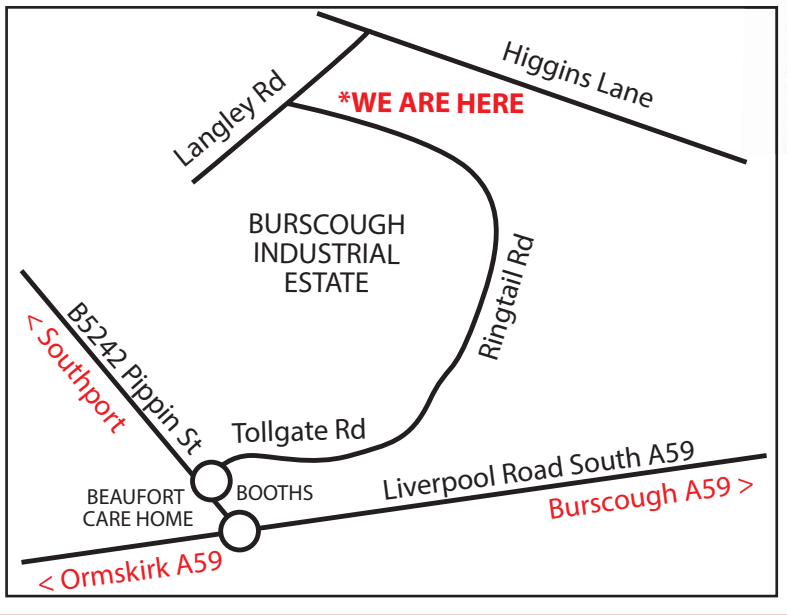

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	1/4lb	1/2lb
Home Made Beef Burger (Local butcher)	£2.90	£3.60
Beef Burger	£2.40	£3.40
Donner Burger	£2.40	£3.40
Cheese Burger	£2.60	£3.60
Chicken Burger	£2.60	£3.60
Chicken Fillet Burger	£2.90	£3.90
Spicy Chicken Fillet Burger	£2.90	£3.90
Veg Burger	£2.60	£3.60
Special Chicken Burger with Onion Rings, Cheese	£3.20	£4.20
Mexican Burger Chilli Con Carne	£2.90	£3.90
Special Beef Burger with Chicken	£3.20	£4.20

NEW! Bacon Burger

JACKET POTATOES

with Cheese	£2.10
with Tuna Mayo	£2.80
with Beans and Cheese	£3.10
with Coleslaw	£2.80
with Prawns and Mayo	£2.80
with Chilli Con Carne	£2.80
with Cheese and Onion	£2.50
SPECIAL BAKED POTATO with Fresh Tomatoes, Onions and Butter	£3.00
EXTRA TOPPINGS Coleslaw, Mayo, Chilli, Beans, Prawns, Ham & Butter	£0.80

WRAPS

ALL SERVED WITH SALAD & SAUCE

Chicken Wrap	£4.30
Lamb Wrap	£4.30
Kofte Wrap	£4.30
Spicy Wrap Chilli Sauce & Garlic Mayonnaise	£4.30

SPAGHETTI

ALL SERVED WITH A PORTION OF MEATBALLS

Spaghetti Bolognese	£5.80
Spaghetti Lamb	£5.80
Spaghetti Chicken	£5.80
Spaghetti Prawns	£5.40
Spaghetti Vegetarian	£5.40

FRIED CHICKEN

1 Piece Chicken with Chips	£2.20
2 Pieces Chicken with Chips	£3.20
3 Pieces Chicken with Chips	£4.20
6 Pieces Chicken with 2 Fries	£7.10
Half Chicken with Rice	£6.50

EXTRAS

	Reg	Lge
Chips	£1.20	£1.80
Cheese and Chips	£2.10	£2.90
Onion Rings	£1.80	£2.20
Naan Bread, Chips and Extra Cheese		£3.00
Chicken, Chips and Cheese		£3.00
Chips, Cheese and Beans		£3.00
Dipping Chicken and Chips		£3.50
Hash Browns (7)		£2.20
Chicken Nuggets and Chips		£4.10
Potato Wedges		£1.80
Hot Wings (9) and Chips		£4.10
BBQ Wings (9) and Chips		£4.10
BBQ Ribs		£4.00
Meatballs with Cheese		£3.00
Breaded Mushroom		£2.90
Garlic Mushroom		£2.90
Garlic Mushrooms & Cheese		£3.70
Coleslaw		£1.50
Side Salad Lettuce, Onions, Tomatoes & Cucumber		£1.80
Mixed Salad Tuna, Mayonnaise, Lettuce, Onions, Tomato and Cucumber		£2.80
Popcorn Chicken & Chips		£2.90
Naan Bread		£1.00
All Sauces Garlic Mayonnaise, Curry, Chilli, BBQ, Sweet Relish, Beans, Gravy and Chilli Con Carne		£1.00

NEW! Large Hot Dogs

Spend £10 or more and get a portion of Garlic Bread with Chee FREE

Spend £20* or more and get a 1.5L bottle of Pepsi® and a Fudge Cake FREE

DESSERTS

Chocolate Fudge Cake	£1.90
Cheesecake	£1.90
Chocolate Profiterole	£1.90
Apple Crumble and Custard	£1.90
Jam Sponge Pudding and Custard	£1.90
Häagen-Dazs® 500ml	£4.20

DRINKS

Cans, Bottled Water	£1.00
Milkshake	£1.20
Bottled Drink 1.5 litre	£2.00

OPEN 7 DAYS

Sunday-Thursday 3.45pm–12 midnight

Friday-Saturday 3.45pm–1am

Please allow 30 mins for collecting your order

SPECIAL OFFERS

Offers do not include Free Garlic Bread

6 KEBAB MEAL £8.90
1 Chicken Kebab
1 Donner Kebab
1 Chips & 2 Cans of Drink

7 BURGER MEAL £7.99
2 1/4lb Cheeseburgers
2 Chips & 2 Cans of Drink

8 MEAL DEAL £13.00
2 10" Pizzas with three Toppings
1 10" Garlic Bread with Cheese
1 Large Chips & 1 Cans of Drink

9 FAMILY BOX £12.50
8 Pieces of Chicken
5 Chicken Wings
3 Chips, 1 Tub of Beans
Coleslaw and Bottled Drink

10 HOUSE SPECIAL £13.50
1 14" Pizza with three Toppings
1 12" Garlic Bread with Cheese
1 Large Chips & 1 Coleslaw
1 1.5L Bottle of Drink

11 MIXED MEAL £19.50
1 12" Pizza with three Toppings
1 10" Garlic Bread with Cheese
1 Mixed Grill Kebab & Small Chips
Coleslaw & 1 1.5L Bottle of Drink

12 AMIGO'S SPECIAL £18.90
2 12" Pizzas with three Toppings
1 10" Garlic Bread with Cheese
1 Coleslaw, Onion Rings
Chips and a Bottle of Drink

Lenny's Fish & Chips

If you have any FOOD or DRINK ALLERGIES or INTOLERANCES please speak to a member of our staff before placing your order

OPENING TIMES
Mon to Thurs
4pm-10.30pm
Fri & Sat 4pm-11pm

JUSTEAT.co.uk

Large Cod	£3.00	Chips, Curry & Fried Rice .*Sml* £1.70 *Lrg* £2.20	Battered Sausage £1.40
Fish Finger	£1.80	Savoury Cake £1.20	Spam Fritters £1.00
Chips *Sml* £1.30 *Lrg* £1.70		Chop Suey Roll £1.50	Onion Rings £1.40
Cone of Chips	£1.00	Fish Cake £1.00	Cans £1.00
Cheesy Chips	£2.20	Sausage *Sml* 70p *Lrg* £1.10	Bottles £2.00
Sausage Dinner	£3.50	Gravy 80p	Yazoo Milkshake £1.20
Pie Dinner	£3.50	Curry 80p	Fruit Shoot 60p
Fish Dinner *Sml* £4.00 *Lrg* £5.00		Peas 80p	Sauce Sachet 20p
Scallops (5)	£1.20	Steak & Kidney Pudding £1.40	KIDS MEALS All with FREE Fruit Shoot
Chip Barm	£1.25	Steak & Kidney Pie £1.40	Chicken Popcorn & Chips £2.50
Barm Cake	45p	Meat Pie £1.40	4 Chicken Nuggets & Chips £2.50
Boiled Rice	£1.50	Meat & Potato Pie £1.40	2 Fish Fingers & Chips £2.50
Chips & Curry *Sml* £1.70 *Lrg* £2.20		Cheese & Onion Pie £1.40	2 Chicken Strips & Chips £2.50
Chips & Gravy *Sml* £1.70 *Lrg* £2.20		Chicken & Mushroom Pie £1.40	Cheesy Stick & Chips £2.50
Chips, Curry and Rice *Sml* £1.70 *Lrg* £2.20		Chicken Breast £2.60	Sausage Dinner £2.50

TEL 01695 722711 • Next to The Highwayman Public House · Blythewood · Digmoor

THE BEST FISH & CHIPS IN SKEM

FREE DELIVERY on orders over £8
We are the ONLY Chippy in Skem who offer this service!

FREE 1.5ltr Bottle of Pepsi with orders over £15

TUESDAY Pensioner's Treat! Small fish, chips and peas ONLY £3 EVERY WEEK

Food Standards Agency

★★★★★

LENNY'S HAS A 5 STAR FOOD HYGIENE RATING